

Public Libraries

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The Librarian as a Statesman*

Prof George Petrie, Alabama polytechnical institute, Auburn

A librarian who makes and carries out wise plans so that her library improves the community is as truly a statesman as was George Washington, or Thomas Jefferson in his wider field.

Librarians are not the only persons who are finding today that public usefulness is necessary for real success. Our college boys have long ago decided that the best football players are those who help most in the team work. Our commercial houses want men who can so discharge their duties as to help the total business of the firm. Today no man liveth unto himself. Our interests are so interwoven that, whether we wish it or not, we must live together, we must cooperate. Out of this is growing a higher ideal of life, a less selfish one. We are beginning to realize the emptiness of wealth, of knowledge, of skill, unless they are so used as to contribute to the public welfare.

A librarian, then, to meet our modern demands, must be something more than a mere holder of a job, who does nothing but what is ordered, complains that the salary is small, the books are few, and that people don't care for a library anyhow. She must be more than a mere jealous keeper of books, who barks at you when you ask for one and growls when you handle it familiarly. Nor is her work done

when she has made a card catalog and numbered all the books according to the latest decimal system. That is good, but it is only getting ready for her work.

Her real duty is not so much to be the librarian of the library, as to be the librarian of the town. She must see to it that she and her library become a useful and important part of the town life. I do not mean that she must meddle with everything, or try to run all the clubs and the town politics. A meddlesome woman is about the worst thing that can happen to a community, unless it be a meddlesome man. A woman who is eager to run things is not a statesman, but a politician. If she dabbles recklessly in everything, she becomes what has been called a "Butt-in-sky," and is a public nuisance. If she hopes to make her library useful, she will have little time to become deeply involved in other public activities, however laudable they may be.

With this word of caution, I now proceed to state what I believe to be the *three great tasks* that lie before every librarian who would do her work in a statesmanlike manner.

The *first task* is to realize what a great thing a library is. I hope you will pardon my saying this to an audience, many of whom spend their lives in libraries. Those who live in constant view of a great waterfall are apt to lose their sense

*A paper read at a meeting of the Alabama library association.

of its majesty. The old saying, "no man is a hero to his own valet" is true: but it is not all the hero's fault, it is partly because the valet grows accustomed to him. When the small boy says "That ain't nobody but Pa," he merely illustrates what we all observe in our own lives, that familiarity breeds contempt. So it may be well, after all, for me, an outsider, to call your attention afresh to what a really great institution a library is.

It is in many ways the *best pleasure producer* in the town. It is a lot more real fun to drop into the library, take up a copy of Ben Hur and follow him in his thrilling chariot race as his whip curls and hisses over the Arab steeds, but falls not, as he talks to them about the singing of women and children in the tents at home, than to travel on the dusty train to Savannah and see motor cars turn somersault under the impulse of gasoline—and it is a heap cheaper. Those of us who can't see an aviator risk his life in an aeroplane for a prize, or a man in a balloon for notoriety, can at least go to the library and read Trowbridge's account of Darius Green and his flying machine. It is not only cheaper and safer, but old Darius becomes a personal friend and has a human touch which his successors have not for most of us. To read John Corbin's book on Oxford is the next best thing to holding a Rhodes scholarship, and is possible for many more people. I am sure all the maids present will agree with me that the love-making in Shakespeare is more delightful than much that girls have to put up with nowadays; and you can get it in the library when you want it. As for me, give me an easy chair in some comfortable corner of the library and I can get more genuine entertainment from my old friend Mark Twain than I can from all the yarns that I have ever heard, or told, in the smoking rooms of hotel or sleeping car.

Now I do not claim that the chief purpose of a library is to give people pleasure. But, perhaps, we who have a touch of the Puritan in our raising are inclined to overlook the tonic effect of real, good, healthy pleasure. To use a

favorite word of Woodrow Wilson it "heartens us up" for the more serious work in life. I remember talking with a distinguished preacher once about a poor woman who had come to him in distress. After some time I said to him rather impatiently, "What are you going to *do* for her?" He looked at me for a few moments and then said in his quiet way, "My dear fellow, sometimes people don't need to have things done for them half so much as they need to be cheered and comforted." My friends, who knows how much good a library can do by furnishing good cheer, diversion, and sometimes real comfort to those who are weary and lonesome and downcast?

This conception of a library leads us at once to its *second great function*. It should be a source of *inspiration* to the community. I suppose if we were to have a round table conference about the influences that have helped us, most of us would say that we owe much to the timely counsel of some wise man, or to the silent force of some noble friend's life. Now in out-of-door life wise counselors are hard to find and inspiring friends still harder: a young man may walk the streets of a large city for weeks and find none. As he plods along in lonely wretchedness, its skyscrapers rise in cold splendor on either side. Their windows are aglow with light and activity; but the glow is for those inside, and they have no leisure to talk with him. How different it is in a library! Here rise stacks of shelves like miniature skyscrapers. But what a friendly light shines from the gilt lettering on the books as from thousands of little windows signaling to him in his darkness, beckoning him to come in and talk it over with friends. What a welcome it is! What a wonderful welcome! Here lean forward the great men of all ages ready to talk with this young boy. No returning hero ever had such an ovation paid him.

There is a phase of this inspiration that sometimes escapes notice. We often hear of men who have been inspired to do great deeds by reading the life of some high purposed hero. But there is

another inspiration that comes from libraries that is just as important: the steady, less conspicuous inspiration that brightens and ennobles and vivifies every day life. This is the inspiration that does not take men out of their regular life, but gives to it a deeper meaning, and to them a livelier interest in it. Who has not received a deeper insight into some phase of life that before seemed plain and commonplace while reading the tales of mining life by Bret Harte, or the stories of mountaineers by Charles Egbert Craddock, or Cable's Old Creole days, or Mrs Wigg's Cabbage patch, or Uncle Remus? These and others like them are the prophets of everyday life; and just because they show so charmingly the depth and tenderness that lie beneath the dull surface of ordinary life they stir and stimulate many who never read about more ambitious heroes.

In speaking of the pleasure and the inspiration that are found in a library, I have discussed what might be called its literary side. Let me hasten to add another side, sometimes neglected, but equally important. For want of a better term, I call it the practical side. This brings me to the *third function* of a library, which is *to give helpful information to anybody on any subject*. If the true university be, as Cornell said it should be, a place where anyone can learn anything, then the modern library should be a university on tap. In the olden days if a man wished information on any matter, he sent to Delphi and consulted the priestess of Apollo. Today he should feel that he can go to the library and get his answer from the priestess there. If he is a traveling man, he should find there maps and schedules; if a raiser of cotton, he should find the latest information on the boll weevil; if he is a woman and wishes to know how to prepare a dish for the table, he should find a good collection of cook books; if a boy interested in sports, he should find the latest baseball guide and football rules. The Sunday school teacher should find good books to help him. The man who is about to build a house should find at least a book or two with plans.

This function of the library must not be neglected if it is to take any real hold on the community. It has suffered, as has the college, from the popular conception that it exists only for those who are interested in literature and have the time for that mysterious thing, culture. And neither the library nor the college will reach its full usefulness until it realizes that its duty is to help all classes.

When one thinks about what a library is, he begins to realize what a tremendous power for good it can be made in a community if properly directed. But a library is like a gun. To be useful, it must not only be loaded, it must also be aimed at the right thing. You all know the story of the artillery squad who tried to simplify matters by tying the cannon directly on the mule's back. The plan worked admirably until they lit the fuse. Then the mule began to turn aimlessly around, and, as the good book says, each man did what was right in his own eyes. Now a library is a gun that has to be shot at something definite and the woman behind this gun is as important as the man behind the gun in our navy. She must know what to shoot at and how to shoot. I think, therefore, that after the librarian has realized what a library really is, her *second task* is to find out how it can help her particular town or community. This means that she must discover what needs that town has which her library can supply, and that is a job for a full grown woman with low heeled shoes. As Christmas approaches, we all begin to realize how hard it is to determine just what our few friends want. But a librarian has to be in her line a perpetual Santa Claus for an entire town. Yet every statesman has the same difficulty; he has to discover just what improvements his particular country is ripe for. So she must have the right book and must have it at the right time. Otherwise her patron may feel like the old negro in Chicago. It was a cold December day, and as he turned the corner, the biting wind met him full in the face. He gathered his ragged coat about him, and looking up

with a quaint smile said, "Hello, Mr. Wind; whar was you dis time las' July?"

The librarian will soon find that every town has *three kinds of needs* with which she must become familiar. First, the needs which each person himself acknowledges. They are needs which have risen fully to the surface and become conscious wants. This woman wants a novel by Mrs. Ward, that girl is just dying to get the "Chanticleer"; here is a man who wants something on gas engines, there is one whose yard is being upset by moles, and last comes an old man who wants to know, "Is you got any book what tells about something better for rheumatiz than carrying a buck-eye in your pocket?" Needs like these are the A B C in the knowledge necessary for the librarian who would adapt herself and her work to the community. Each is simple in itself, but to learn them all is a big task. Yet it is important. A mental card catalog of the needs of the people is as necessary as a visible card catalog of the books.

The second class of needs is a more difficult kind. It includes the whole vague class of dimly felt wants, things that the people when cornered admit that they ought to have, but the lack of which is not worrying them. Strange as it may seem, these are often the things of the highest importance and they include a vast range of subjects, such as the history of our own state and country, the fundamental facts in the treatment of tuberculosis, and even how to make decent biscuits. Some of these needs are obvious; but others are more subtle, and they all have to be discovered by the librarian before they can be met by the library. Moreover she must not only discover them herself, but she must bring them fully up into the consciousness of the individual before it will do much good to meet them. For a want is like a cataract on the eye, it must reach a certain ripeness before it is wise to remove it. In other words she must change a feeble appetite into a vigorous one before the food in the library will be of real service. And this dealing with half felt wants in any commun-

ity is a delicate task requiring all of her woman's tact.

That class of needs gives trouble, yet the hardest of all to deal with are the third group. These are the totally unrecognized needs. They have to be discovered by the librarian, planted in the hearts of the community and then met from the library. These are the highest test of her statesmanship; they require creative genius. Yet men in other professions work out similar problems. My own little town never dreamed that it needed a bakery and coffee stand. A few weeks ago one man saw the need; he had the courage; and now he is the busiest man there.

Another incident will illustrate more fully. This I got from a bookseller in one of our small towns. A school boy came to his store to buy a book. He could not remember the title but drew from his pocket a wad of paper on which he had written the name as his teacher gave it to him. He now read it out, Shakespeare's "Merchant of Venus." The book was handed to him. He looked it over and said, "Gee, have I got to read all that stuff?" The bookseller then told him in a simple way the main points in the story, ending with Portia's judgment that Shylock might take the pound of flesh near the heart provided he shed no blood. "Gad," cried the boy, "that fixed him. Gimme the book."

One more illustration. Sunday school children ought to know the geography of Palestine, but how few care at all about it! Yet if the librarian would, with the help of some of these children, arrange a rough low table and on it make a clay relief map of Palestine, inaccurate and clumsy though it might be, the children would become absorbed in it and would gladly go to a wall map to verify its details. In fact, such a thing might become the beginning of a thoro geographical study.

Now if the first task of a large minded librarian is to understand what a library really is, and the second is to find out how the community needs it, then obviously her *third task* is to make the library meet those needs. Ah, you say,

that is as easy as slipping on a shoe, after you know the shoe and find the foot that needs it. I doubt whether in practice it proves so easy to make your library meet even the obvious needs about you. Perhaps the shoe is too small for the foot, or a poorly made shoe that is of little service after it is on. Often the greatest trouble in making the library fill the needs lies in getting an adequate library. You will all agree to that, but I am afraid some of you will be surprised to hear me say that it is perhaps the greatest duty of a librarian who would be a statesman to get an adequate library. Themistocles was in many respects the ablest of Greek statesmen and his proudest boast was that he knew how to make a small city into a great one. A librarian should see to it that her library gets a building, books, service, and money enough to meet reasonably well the needs about her. I do not mean that she should complain to the poor and beg from the rich. Even a dog, if it howls or cringes, loses his hold on the affections of the community. I do mean that she should use her utmost tact and skill to win for her library the hearty sympathy of everybody in town, and she should nurse and cherish that sympathy until it grows into enthusiasm. And when people become genuinely and deeply enthusiastic over a public institution, you don't have to beg, you can let them contribute. People keep their money locked up in their hearts. Some of them can get a lot of it in a small place. But the only way to get any of it is to open their hearts.

If the library is to depend on the sympathy of the community, it must get in

touch with the community. This means not only that it must make itself useful to individuals of every class, but also that it must be useful to every organization. One of the first things that it should have is a comfortable, cheerful room where societies and clubs of all kinds can meet—literary societies, sewing societies, Daughters of the Revolution, Daughters of the Confederacy, Confederate veterans and their sons, Sunday school teachers' unions, Pastors' Monday clubs, and Small Boys' fishing associations. There is scarcely a conceivable club that would not find in the library, however meagre, some helpful information ready at hand; and what they could not find they would realize was needed. I am not an advocate of trusts, but I am an advocate of business coöperation. The library should be the center of coöperation of every club in town, and its purpose should be not to boss these clubs, but to help them. It should remember the words of the Master, "Let him who would be first, be the servant of all."

These seem to me the three great tasks of the librarian who would be a statesman in her work; namely, to get a large vision of what a library ought to be, to find out the local needs which it should fill, and to see to it that more and more it does fill them. Librarians, like other statesmen, must have their Valley Forges. But as surely as day follows night will the librarian who makes good with slender resources, be given more to work with. There is a profound philosophy in those words of the Great Teacher, "Thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many."

***Choosing a Librarian from the Viewpoint of the Assistant**

Jennie M. Flexner, chief of circulation department, Public library, Louisville, Ky.

IN these days of spiritualism and telepathy, it seemed to me significant that as I sat down to prepare for this appearance, a certain rhyme of deep

and solemn meaning kept running thru my head. Altho I knew so well what I wished to say, this strange accompaniment to my thought persisted, until I began to realize—as doubtless my spirit control meant me to—that these

*Read at A. L. A. meeting at Colorado Springs in June, 1920.

few lines summed up my ideas and were the gist of everything I was trying to express:

Will you walk a little faster,
Said the Whiting to the Snail,
There's a Porpoise close behind me
And he's treading on my tail.

There it is. The truth will out. And for this 15 minutes I am to talk for the Whiting. I can't help being the Whiting and I can't help feeling the discomfort of my position. I must beg that Snail which from my outlook appears such a nice, comfortable fellow, please to "walk a little faster." Not a great deal faster—just a little—I am a librarian, and I am trained to politeness, and a willingness to be reasonable and I am particularly anxious not to be otherwise, since I am sure that the Snail behind which I move too slowly for comfort is the traditional Board of Trustee. And yet I repeat

Will you walk a little faster?
There's a Porpoise close behind me.

Maybe his other name is Progress. I am not sure; but at any rate, he is in a hurry—and here's the point, dear old Snail, "He is treading on my tail."

The selection of the librarian from the viewpoint of the Whiting is a simple matter to describe. The Whiting knows the solid and substantial virtues of that Board, but he feels the pressure of that Porpoise. One way or another he has to make himself heard. And so, in a gentle, understanding, patient voice, he whispers that most radical and dangerous of all pleas—"Will you walk a little faster?"

The question of choosing a librarian is, and of course, must be the duty of the governing body of any library and I cannot imagine any condition of affairs where that procedure would be radically altered. The assistant equally, of course, must not interfere in this choice. But those who do the choosing might endeavor in the general survey of the questions involved to include among other points of view, that of this necessary and indispensable assistant.

I wonder where the Board of Trust-

tees is that will first recognize the advantage that might be derived from having a staff representative at their meetings. The idea of the representation of workers on governing bodies has been forced into the foreground, and has been tried and found effective in many groups where the workers and the boards are not nearly so well matched as would be the case in most libraries. The experience of the individual who has been a library employee for any length of time might well be considered an asset and used by the trustees for the benefit of the system. Why not get the worm's-eye view that the assistant has of any past or prospective librarian, to enlarge the more or less necessarily limited vision obtainable by the trustee who, because of the office he holds, must have a different view from that of the worker?

In all sorts of work, the individual today has a more or less newly recognized right to have and to express opinions concerning the chief who is to direct her, who is not only to restrict and to lead, but who has to give or withhold the opportunities which will open the way to her highest usefulness. The librarian who will succeed from the viewpoint of that assistant as well as the public, and the trustees, is the one who will stimulate the creative instinct in his subordinates, who will be generous and large of mind and fair. But these general statements are true of almost any executive and the librarian needs some additional and distinctive attribute, especially from the Whiting's point of view.

Perspective at close quarters is difficult to achieve and in the mind of the assistant when a change of directors is necessary there are many merely human as well as professional questions. Every little 20 year old girl could construct her own Galatea, and in about seven cases out of ten, the prodigy would recognize the genius of the maker and give her her chance to succeed, and be a really great librarian in her turn.

The librarian nowadays, as always, must be so much more than the mere student, the curator of books, tho he must still be that in addition to everything else. He must be the center, the directing force of an organization, perfected and equipped to give to all who can be reached that which will enable them to meet and accomplish the most unusual demands of the day's work. He must have clearness of vision, definiteness of purpose, and constructive imagination. All of the old problems have to be met by this organization and a great many new ones, which means obviously more work for the assistant as well as the librarian. Every service performed must be looked at, considered, weighed, and if simplified methods of procedure (the beloved short-cuts) can be devised, they must be adapted and adopted. Conditions of labor forbid that the old things be done in the old way, if a new way is easier, all of which means that the library cannot any longer be a monument to traditions. The librarian should have elasticity of mind and courage and even a disregard of convention and the old pleasant, ordered ways. That seems a bit terrifying perhaps to some of us who have been more or less moulded by the shape of our own particular ruts. But it bespeaks a real chance for youth, with its freshness of vision and freedom of viewpoint. And that is what librarians are for—not to build mausoleums for themselves—but to train up a vigorous, free, thoughtful next generation which will in itself insure the continuance of the work not necessarily to be done in our way but in the best way that any one can do it for the time.

The librarian has the right to demand many things of his assistants, for everything depends on the right relation between all workers—regardless of rank—on the mutual loyalty and respect of the individuals involved. If there is not cohesion and singleness of purpose thru the whole staff, the librarian may plan his work ever so well, but it will not carry far. The in-

dividual is, of course, just a cog but under this "coggishness" we are all different. We all have our human peculiarities, our hopes, ambitions and fears.

The ideal librarian for whom every interested trustee in the world looks at some time or another, and with whom every assistant of any grade wants to work, is that individual who will draw out that hidden best which is within each one of us, who will, as I said before, stimulate a creative spirit in his subordinates. He is that leader who because of his justice, his magnetism, his appreciation, his ability to inspire, will incite the individual workers to follow their natural inclinations as far as that is possible.

There is in each of us as we start out a certain freshness of vision, an ideal of service. There is love of books, of humanity, even of intricate detail. What will the years and the work make of us and of our gifts? Will we grow and expand, and know the joy of full development? In the hands of the librarian this decision rests for the most of us. Will he really give it due consideration?

Each of us knows something of ourselves, but how can we make this bit that we know, of most use unless the leader recognizes the latent talent. Every assistant has the right to demand that some effort be made to discover the directions in which her work should lead, to find her possibly unsuspected abilities and to foster them. She has a right to demand that she be allowed to build, not only for her own benefit and the joy in her work, but for the benefit of the community. She has the right to expect and to demand inspiration, recognition, encouragement, justice and kindness, from her chief, for only with help can she achieve and grow, can she follow the urge that is within her.

If the assistant is trained by education and experience, she has of course, more to contribute and she knows better how to proceed to secure from her

work the real compensations that are to be found in it. But in this day of temporary expedients, of stop-gaps, of the reluctant but necessary lowering of standards, the responsibility of the chief is a real one. There are many to whom the leader must actually point the way to knowledge, and many others who need only the merest hint to move with assurance toward opportunity. Much is expected of the assistant and that much at least she is entitled to expect of her chief.

So you see as much from what I have not said as from what I have, that

it isn't only a one-sided matter this choosing of a librarian from the assistant's viewpoint. It is not at all a simple thing and obvious, like being a Democrat used to be if one lived in Kentucky and happened to be white.

And the old Snail isn't the only thing in the world that has to walk a little faster. All of us Whittings have to be up, up and doing with an eye to the Porpoise, and in this more or less unsettled world we must answer in our own minds the question "Will you, won't you, will you, won't you, will you join the dance?"

Have You a Good Love Story?

(A word in defense of librarians)

Carl Glick, New York City

For a long time I pondered over the mystery of the pale, sad faces of the librarians I have known. Often have I seen a young ambitious girl, her face aglow, the rapture of her soul in her eyes, strong, reliant, proud, enter upon a service of apprenticeship in a library. I envied her her good fortune, her hours among the books, in company with the master minds of the world. A rare privilege to work among such surroundings.

But ever and anon, let only a few months pass, and the fresh young beauty of youth is trailed in the dust. Behold the thin librarian. Pale and wan, a sad light of awakening in her eyes, a disappointed droop to her mouth, a cynical twist to her nose. Surely something fearful has caused this depressing change.

At first I concluded it was lack of adequate pay, and I became a Socialist. But the salary is splendid, I was given to understand. And I can easily believe it. In our town, no one class supports culture and all it stands for as do our librarians. They are always seen taking notes at uplifting lectures. They are seen arm in arm with the Four Hundred at the Community theatre. They buy the grand opera records for the victrola from the music store. They seek culture in bands,

pale groups of women, wraiths of what once promised romance and adventure to my middle class soul.

Always together. Never with men. They seem to avoid the stronger sex. Shun them. This, too, impressed me. Was there something unthinkable about their profession and their lives?

I set my natural detective instinct to work. I was bound to discover what it was that had brought about this aesthetic downfall of the librarians.

So one afternoon I stood in the library near the desk. The librarian in charge was peculiarly sad looking. I mean, looked peculiarly sad. There was a careless abandon to her dress. Her hair was mussed. She was like a creature without hope. But I talked with her a moment and found her unusually well read.

"Are you looking for a particular book?" she asked.

"Yes. I am," was my lying reply. "How can you tell?"

"I know by the veriest glance at a person just the sort of a book they will want to read."

"How wonderful," I murmured, truly impressed. "And what sort of a book do you think I would read?"

Before she could reply there came to the desk, a large, fat, old maid, a look in her eyes I do not like to see on any woman's face.

The librarian waited with anticipation.

"I wish something to read," said the old maid.

The librarian reached for the "Year's anthology of free verse." Clever of the librarian? Yes. Surely this is the sort of thing that maiden ladies, fat and thin, will read.

But the old maid leaned over the desk. "Have you a good love story?" she said.

The tired look came back into the librarian's eyes.

Next came a bedraggled woman, two grimy children at her heels. The librarian reached for a copy of "Health of the child."

But the woman leaned closer. She had a downright guilty air.

"Have you a good love story?" she said.

The tired look came back into the librarian's eyes.

A staid old man, nice woolen scarf about his neck, rubbers, thick gloves, spectacles. "Ah!" I thought, "Here is where she hands out Nietzsche or Plato. Here is a real intellectual."

But.....

"Have you a good love story?" he said.

The tired look came back into the librarian's eyes.

Two giggling school girls appeared. One was chewing gum. The other was chewing gum. They had some school books under their arms.

"I suppose you want 'Pilgrim's Progress' tonight?" asked the librarian.

"Nothing doin'," simpered the girls. "Have you a good love story?"

The tired look came back into the librarian's eyes.

Then she seemed to take a fresh lease upon life. She fussed with her hair. She straightened her dress. Entered one of our successful young business men. He held his head high. He walked briskly to the desk. He was like a storage battery of ambition and virility. The librarian brought out a book on salesmanship.

"Thanks. Not that," he said. "Have you a good love story?"

The tired look came back into the librarian's eyes.

I could have screamed with rage. My blood boiled. The injustice of it. That she, and others of her kind, should be made to suffer in this way. I cried out indignantly, "What are libraries for?"

She handed me a good love story.

In the Letter Box

Please sign contributions. Confusion sometimes arises as to who is who and what is what. The contributor's name will not be used if it is so requested but the identity of the writer must be established.

Who Knows?

August 31, 1920.

Editor of PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

I wish to ask thru PUBLIC LIBRARIES if any librarians have used the "Noiseless" typewriter for cataloging, and if so, if the results have been satisfactory.

For the library having but one room and one librarian the problem of the noise made by many typewriters is a serious one.

HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARIAN.

Free Distribution

The Texas state library has a number of duplicates of the Texas civil code for 1895 for distribution to any library that will pay the cost of transportation.

ELIZABETH H. WEST,
State librarian.

It is announced that the Standard Motor Construction Company, 172-180 Whiton street, Jersey City, New Jersey, will be glad to present to any public library a copy of the volume Cinderellas of the fleet, without charge. Those desiring it should write to the company, giving the address to which it is to be sent.

A number of pictures of the governing body of the International Labor office of the League of Nations together

with pictures of the home office in Geneva, Switzerland, have been received and are available for publication. Copies will be furnished free of charge for this purpose on request addressed to Ernest Greenwood, 618 Seventeenth street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Post-Conference Pictures

As many have expressed a desire to see copies of his post-conference photographs, Mr Faxon will be glad to send on a round-robin a selection, from which copies may be ordered. Address request to him at 83 Francis St., Boston, 17, Mass.

Library Extension

Editor PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

Governor Dorsey, of Georgia, recently organized a State council of social agencies. Two representatives from each agency were invited to become members of the council. To those who feel that the library does not always get the recognition as a social force, that it should, it will be welcome news that the governor included in his call the chairman and secretary of the State library commission.

CHARLOTTE TEMPLETON,
Secretary.

Georgia library commission.

Attractive, Rebound Books

When the altruistic millenium has arrived, possibly all rebound books will circulate as readily as new. Meanwhile how may we deceive the public for their own good by taking the rebound books from the wallflower set? Miss Countryman of Minneapolis, has tried several ways with success. For the purpose paper jackets have been saved in an alphabetical file in the Public library's bindery and the forwarder consults this before selecting the cloth for the new case. Frequently the jacket can be trimmed for a front cover design which brightens a dark cloth of harmonizing shade. Many times the

jacket has a figure or head which may be cut out and used alone.

Another device is the use of a combination of cloth and paper in pleasing shades or contrasts. This, of course, makes a less durable binding than all cloth.

A variety of ornaments for the back, as well as several fonts of type, serve in breaking the monotony on a shelf of rebounds.

These methods—which are used only for adult fiction—raise the expense in rebinding, yet pay by actual demonstration, as the public grasp eagerly for these more attractive books while passing by the duller books of equal readableness.

Same Book—Different Title

Public Libraries:

Bible types of modern men; a course of lectures to young men, by the Rev. Mackintosh Mackay, 4th edition, at \$1.75, with the imprint of Hodder & Stoughton Co., just brought out in this country by George Doran (imported edition), is identical with *The man in the street* and other Bible types of modern men, by the same author, \$1.50, brought out in 1910.

PURD B. WRIGHT,
Librarian.

Window Exhibits

Editor of PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

Libraries like ours, which have plenty of good exhibition material, but only a poor place in which to show it, may not all have thought of using windows, in a reference or circulating department, to best advantage. In our own reference room we are fortunate in having eight large, uniform windows, four feet wide, occupying practically the whole front of the room. During the present week, we are displaying on these windows about 60 specimen plates from Hough's "*American Woods*." They rest on the lower sashes which, during the open season, are naturally kept raised to let in the air. A simple cord, held in place by a

double-headed tack in each of the sash-uprights, keeps the pictures in position, while during the closed season, they may be hung on a similar cord, stretched midway of the sash. In the future we shall expect to use our windows rather freely for this purpose, in the case of picture postal-cards and other small views that will not obscure the light.

ROBERT K. SHAW.

Data Desired

The Special Libraries association has appointed a committee on methods to collect from all types of special libraries thruout the country, with a view of publication, data in regard to various methods used in these libraries. The chairman of the committee is Mary B. Day, librarian of the National Safety Council, 168 North Michigan avenue, Chicago, to whom material concerning methods used in special libraries should be sent.

A Much Needed Revision

Editor of PUBLIC LIBRARIES—

The July, 1920 issue of Public Libraries contains a notice that the Manufacturers' Aircraft Association library publishes an annotated list of the more important articles in aeronautical periodicals, only two of which are included in the regular indexes.

You may be interested to know that all the periodicals included in this list, with the exception of four, are indexed in the *Engineering Index* published by the American society of mechanical engineers, and of these four, two have been adjudged of too popular nature to be included in the Engineering Societies library.

The *Engineering Index*, which was published for a number of years by the *Engineering Magazine*, was taken over in 1918 by the American society of mechanical engineers, who have revised and enlarged it so that it now covers all the 1,300 American and foreign periodicals taken by the Engineering Societies library. All the more important

publications of our own and foreign governments, relating to engineering subjects, are also included in the material indexed. The old class system has been discarded in favor of an alphabetical arrangement, which makes the material more easily accessible.

The current index, which is published from month to month in *Mechanical Engineering*, the journal of the American society of mechanical engineers and which is also available in separate form, is cumulated in an annual volume for which the engineering public is finding increasing use.

I trust you will pardon me for going into so much detail, but the context of the paragraph in Public Libraries led me to gather that you might not be familiar* with the *Engineering Index*.

The Society of automotive engineers called the matter to the attention of the Manufacturers' aircraft association at the time the statement was made, and they acknowledged that they had taken into consideration only the Wilson indexes.

GRATIA L. PROUTY,
Order Division.
Engineering Society Library.

Masculine vs. Feminine Librarians

Library Employees' Union 15590,
463 Central Park West,
New York City.

Editor PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

Dear Madam Editor:

Can it be that for the sake of peace or out of courtesy to a rival paper you will allow Mr Bowker's statement on the qualifications of women for the highest positions in library work to go unchallenged?

I refer to the article on "Women in library work" in the *Library Journal* of June 15. Mr Bowker states that women are not yet on an absolute equality with men in the library profes-

*On the contrary, my gray hairs were multiplied in a vain endeavor thru many years to find out what the *Engineering Index* really meant to present.—Editor of PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

sion. "This," says Mr Bowker, "is partly because such equality is not fully the habit of the learned professions, and partly because women have not yet been fully trained by experience to fill the more important posts. It would be difficult to find a worthy successor to Dr Putnam as librarian of congress, even among the men, and no woman has at this time sufficient standing and experience in the profession to be thought of for that foremost of professional posts."

I do not wish to detract from Mr Bowker's intended compliment to Dr Putnam's efficiency, but it does appear as something of a joke that among all our splendidly qualified American women there are none of sufficient standing for this high post. Mr Bowker is a library trustee. Perhaps it is "not yet fully the habit" of library trustees (usually men) to even consider the possibilities of placing a woman in a job paying \$3,000 or more.

How are all these men equipped to fill the high positions in library work? A glance in "Who's Who" would convince an "outsider" that a dash into law, engineering, newspaper work, business, school teaching or zinc and lead mining gives just the proper experience needed to manage or organize a large library. We find very few of these "leaders" in the profession are graduates of the library schools, which appear so necessary for the young women in order that they may advance to even a modest position in the service.

There is no reason why ex-newspaper men, ex-principals, mediocre lawyers, tired business men and etc., should be appointed to the "chiefships" while the women remain—faithful, tireless, efficient, and indispensable adjuncts—drawing their rewards from those "many other than salary compensations" which have for so long been the chief solace of the "weaker sex." There is no reason for this condition except sex discrimination in the library profession which we have pointed to before.

We recall that President Wilson has lately appointed a woman to the position of assistant-U. S. attorney general. Mrs Gardner is a member of the U. S. Civil Service commission. Miss Patterson was appointed assistant to the Secretary of War. Need we go on with the list, Is it really so "unlikely" that some day the President may appoint a woman to direct and manage the Library of Congress? And if that time were now would it be necessary to go outside the "profession"? We should like to hear from the new president of the American Library Association on this point.

Sincerely,
TILLOAH SQUIRES,
President.

A Difference of Opinion

To the Editor PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

Could you spare some space in your journal for a statement concerning the report of the Congressional commission on the reclassification of salaries, to correct the impression given by the note in PUBLIC LIBRARIES for June, 1920, p. 325, which seems to the present writer to be somewhat misleading?

The report, which as stated, consists of a volume of 800 pages, represents an immense amount of work, and tho much of the classification is disappointing to the services affected, it is hardly fair to condemn it entirely on this account.

This work was done under many handicaps, too numerous to mention here. A detailed staff, gathered from all departments of the government, new to this type of work, directed by a group of outside "experts," who had classified "jobs" before, but who were unfamiliar with the government service, all these under the direction of the Commission of six, three former representatives, three senators, in less than one year's time, charted the organizations of the various departments of the government service, worked out a classification for the innumerable kinds of work performed in the government service, studied and classified 107,000 individual questionnaires, and wrote descriptions for the duties and qualifications for 1,700 classes. At the same time studies were being made of employment practices in the various government departments, concerning compensation paid for comparable service inside and outside the government, and this data was being tabulated for the use of the Commission. A moment's thought will show that this was a stupendous job, that a year was entirely inadequate to do it as it might have been done, and that the wonder is that

such a creditable, constructive piece of work resulted, in spite of the many difficulties.

Neither the classification nor the salary recommendations put the library service where it properly belongs, considering the qualifications and the importance of the work, but this service suffered under some peculiar handicaps, one of which was that it was the first on which the Commission had hearings, and almost the last to be actually considered by the Commission itself for final salary recommendations. Altho the increases, in comparison with other services for which similar qualifications are required, are still entirely inadequate, the statement in your note that "This leaves librarians practically where they were with the poorest compensation and the highest qualifications" is inaccurate. It is true of the higher positions in the various government libraries and the Library of Congress which were either left exactly where they were, or for which increases so inadequate were recommended that they are little better than none. But the rank and file of the library assistants would be greatly benefited by the recommended salary schedules. The lowest grades in the government libraries would be somewhat reduced, but those in the Library of Congress and the Public Library would be increased, while the average intermediate grade assistant would be increased.

The committee of librarians who organized the hearings before the Commission, are now working on the classification of the library service, coördinating it with the other professional and technical classes, where it fairly belongs. If the result of this committee's work is not embodied in the classification when adopted by Congress, it will be submitted to the Civil Service commission, and if the principles set forth in the report are adopted by Congress, there is a reasonable hope that eventually the imperfections of the classification and the injustices of the salary recommendations will be remedied.

The classification, which takes up the greater part of the volume, is of great importance, of course, but the report also contains many recommendations for changes of fundamental significance to the Federal Civil Service. The text of the report should be read by all librarians, not only because of what it contains of interest to all administrative officers, but, because, as citizens they should be informed concerning a matter of such vital importance to the Federal Government. The report should, moreover, have an additional interest for librarians since most of them are, themselves, city or state officials.

On pages 132-145 of the Report is the draft of a bill providing for the classification of positions on the basis of duties and qualifications, for uniform practices relating to employment in the Civil Service, covering the fair and uniform administration of regulations relating to such important matters as hours of work, pay for overtime, annual leave, sick leave, salary advancements, promotions, and

the relations of the employees to their superior officers, to each other, and to their environment and working conditions. Chaotic conditions now exist in the Federal Civil Service and the District Government in relation to all those matters, due to the fact that each department and independent establishment was created and is operated under a separate appropriation, the provisions for each organization being absolutely independent of those of all the others. A budget system, and the bill contained in the Reclassification Report would go far to correct many of these discrepancies and the attendant evils. The report also contains supplementary recommendations on such matters as retirement of superannuated employees,¹ the training of employees for more efficient performance of their duties, and the working out of comprehensive health and safety programs. Many of these recommendations were not included in the bill, as the Commission did not want to endanger its enactment, by the inclusion of what some might think extraneous matter. But the recommendations, all the result of a thoro and scientific study of the government service, may later, perhaps, be included in further constructive legislation for the improvement of the Federal Civil Service.

It is the feeling of the bulk of the scientific and technical employees of the government service in Washington, that the report of the commission, inadequate and unsatisfactory as it is in some respects, marks a most important step toward the material improvement of conditions in the Federal Civil Service. By making the Civil Service commission the central employment agency for the government, and by creating a Civil Service advisory council composed of equal numbers of administrative officers and employees, representing the different occupational groups, it insures uniformity in the administration of personnel matters and the participation of employees themselves in the formulation and administration of personnel relations. By the adoption of the "Classification of 1920" unsatisfactory as it is in many cases, the principal of uniform pay for uniform duties and qualifications is at least recognized and established, and means for correcting injustices and discrepancies in the classification and for modifying it from time to time to meet changing conditions is provided for in the bill.

As librarians we should all give this report our support for the sake of the constructive recommendations which it contains, and not allow our disappointment concerning our own service to blind us to the tremendous value of this effort to give to the United States government an employment policy.

EUNICE R. OBERLY,
Librarian, Bureau of Plant Industry,
U. S. Department of Agriculture.
Washington, D. C.

¹The retirement bill has been passed since the report was issued.

Monthly—Except August
and September.

Public Libraries

M. E. Ahern, Editor

6 No. Michigan Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

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Contributions for current numbers of PUBLIC LIBRARIES should be in hand by the fifteenth of the month previous to the appearance of the magazine. Advertisements for which proof is not required can be accepted as late as the twenty-second of the previous month.

Illinois Library Conference

THE Illinois library association will hold its annual meeting at Springfield, October 12-14, and every library in the state should be represented by at least one of its trustees, more if possible, and by at least one of the members of the library staff. It has been proven too many times to question here, that even if the expenses of the library's representatives are paid from library funds, the library may profit more from such expenditure, than if that amount of money were used to keep the library open longer hours.

Of course it is possible to waste money in going to library meetings, it happens sometimes. Last year, was it? a trustee was heard to say, "I've always wanted to visit this place, I have friends here." There was nothing wrong in that, but the time of the ses-

sions was used for the visiting and that was wrong. But when the trustees and the librarians go to library meetings, take part in the discussions, ask questions, talk to the point and stop when they reach it, contribute to the interest and "go" of the meeting, they return home refreshed in their library spirits, with a clearer vision of what library service really means and a productive determination to make their position either as trustee or library worker count in the betterment of the library service, which they have promised to promote in the community. One gets of the kind that one takes with them.

As the official organ of the Illinois library association, PUBLIC LIBRARIES urges every one connected with library service of any sort in the state to take as great interest as possible in the state meeting.

Come and let us counsel together.

Changes at Princeton University Library

DR E. C. Richardson has been appointed director of Princeton university libraries. James T. Gerould takes his place as admin-

istrative librarian. Dr Richardson, whose part in the administration will be advisory to trustee committees, the faculty committee and

the library staff, will be responsible for general policies and instructional aspects, as distinguished from administrative.

This arrangement will give him opportunity to develop courses in bibliography and palaeography, which he has had in mind to do for a great many years. Dr Richardson has been long interested in book science research, something which has been little developed in America, but for which there is increasing demand and it is high time that it was undertaken somewhere. Such a science in the hands of Dr Richardson, in such a university as Princeton, would find itself well placed. Nor is the consulting director for trustees and faculty a small commission. Inexpert interference in perfectly good faith, but with incredible technical ignorance often reaches such proportions as to threaten the destruction of many an organization developed by hard working, conscientious

librarians, who, handicapped by lack of money and authority are not free to protect the library's interest from inexperienced interference in library management.

Few trustees and fewer members of the faculty realize that the modern large library has become a highly complex and technical matter on the business side. It cannot be run as an administrative matter by independent, inexpert managers working without coördinative methods except at considerable loss.

University libraries generally may be expected to welcome this new idea that has been adopted at Princeton, as a saving element. An expert adviser available for trustees, faculty and staff committees is a constructive idea by which good organization shall not only be preserved, but extended and an office that will doubtless be more and more established as its value is understood.

Petitions and Trustees

FOR the past year or so there has been a growing disposition on the part of members of the staffs of the various libraries over the country to come into actual touch with the trustees or those members of the city administration responsible for salaries, by means of signed petitions. It is interesting to note the difference in the receptions accorded these different petitions. It may be said with a feeling of just pride, that in the majority of instances the trustees have received these petitioners as their co-equal workers in public service and so far as they have had the power, have granted what in every case have been very

modest requests for increased salary, in comparison with the expenditure for other forms of public service.

This situation is one that speaks well for the point of view of public servants, whether in administrative or active actual work. A public library cannot justify itself in any of its relations the moment it begins to depart from the idea that it is an institution that belongs to all the people, to whom it is responsible for its work and by whom it is supported. It is established on the initiative and continued by the consent of the people of the community and those in charge of it, whether as trustees, directors or li-

brary workers can faithfully perform their duties only in so far and so long as they work conscientiously, coöperatively and righteously together.

That this last condition does not prevail in every place is a matter for sincere regret. Newspapers in a number of localities the past summer have presented reports of conferences, discussions and utterances, which are justifiable under no circumstances and which in no wise reflect credit on those who have departed from the idea of working together for the public good, on the basis outlined above. It has unfortunately happened too often, that in these discussions the less creditable showing has been made by the trustees, who of all people ought to be fair, considerate and even indulgent towards those who, because of the character of their work and surroundings are unable to reach the attention of tax levy and apportionment governing bodies. But in the long run and in the main, the public itself is fair and those, both among directors and on library staffs who have not been fair in the matter will finally reach their level.

An immoral attitude is observed in some instances where the position is taken by trustees that because the persons doing the library's work live in the town, therefore, they are not entitled to a salary which they would require if living in a strange community. Reduced to simple terms, this means that the library worker or her family contributes to the library the money which is required for her support. There must be something akin to moral strabismus on the part of one who can justify a low salary on any such grounds.

The result of the activity of petitioners to the municipal authorities in New York City for a fairer adjustment of salaries is one that reflects credit on all concerned. It offers evidence, if not proof, that when librarians go to real business men, in a business way, with a business proposition, they create a better impression and receive larger results than they would if adopting an apologetic or aggressive attitude. Right is right, and right wrongs nobody. Let the good work go on!

Children's Book Week

THE Children's book week for 1920 has been set for November 15-20. This movement needs the active coöperation of every librarian and children's librarian in the country. No interest is so small nor anything in the children's department too large that by coöperation in some way the attention of parents and teachers cannot be attracted to the value of cultivating a love of reading among young people. The Children's library section of the A. L. A. in its meeting at Col-

orado Springs voted hearty endorsement of the plan.

The Jessie Willcox Smith poster used last year again will be available to libraries that desire to take part in the week. Talks by librarians, by authors, and exhibits of children's books; story hours and talks in book stores by children's librarians; local newspaper articles; Christmas exhibits well advertised, are some of the features that were so successfully presented last year.

Book sellers are preparing for the week and where they are not, the librarian should urge them to do so. Boy Scout organizations will coöperate in making the week mean "More books in the home." The American Book Sellers' association, the A. L. A., and the Boy Scouts of America will be glad to receive suggestions about observance of the week and to send any help possible to those who wish to take part.

Marion Humble has been named as executive secretary and will be glad to correspond with any who are interested. She may be addressed at Room 212, 334 Fifth avenue, New York.

School Boards as Library Boards

The Public library of Dayton, Ohio, has been faced with the necessity of increased funds or closing its doors to the public. To secure the former and avoid the latter, a vigorous campaign was inaugurated this summer to bring the school board of that city, whose duty it is to apportion the amount of funds to the library, to increase the appropriation assigned to the latter institution so that there may not be a break-down in the library administration. Because the schools have felt the need of more funds for their own work, they have not provided the increase necessitated by the development of the library service, as well as the increased cost of maintenance.

Statistics were submitted showing that 51 per cent of the activities of the library were for the benefit of the schools. It was the general opinion of the commission that the library's request for \$121,600 be allowed by the Board of Education.

The latest report of the effort to arouse interest, states that the board of education has certified the request for the money to the commission. This was a direct reversal of its former refusal to certify. The library law of Ohio relat-

ing to this matter (Sec. 7639 Tax levy) states:

Library trustees annually shall certify to the board of education the amount of money needed.....during the ensuing year..... The board of education annually shall levy on each dollar of taxable property within such school district.....such assessment not exceeding one and one-half mills, as shall be necessary to realize, *without reduction, the sum so certified*, which must be placed on the tax duplicate and collected as other taxes are.

If the Dayton public library secures the help for which it is contending, the result should be advantageous to all other public libraries of Ohio which may not be receiving the sums due them.

Better Speech Week

The American Speech committee of the Chicago Woman's club wishes to acknowledge the courtesy of the G. & C. Merriam Co., of Springfield, Mass., which has just published a folder for the use of teachers during Better Speech Week (November 1-8, 1920), written by Grace Williamson Willett, Publicity chairman of the committee.

During the last two years the committee has had so many requests from teachers for suggestions in regard to material suitable for the children's use in the celebration of Better Speech Week that it has seemed wise to embody such suggestions in a folder. The Merriam Co. says of this publication, in a letter written to school superintendents:

If you would like copies of this folder for distribution to your teachers we will be very glad to send them to you without charge and postage prepaid.

Our Business

A letter has been received from Miss Sarah C. N. Bogle, assistant secretary of the A. L. A., in which she discusses the requests which are coming into A. L. A. headquarters for recommendations for positions. They are for every type of position and for the most part specify library school training.

Miss Bogle states that the incoming classes in most of the library schools

this year are not filled. She makes the following appeal:

Is it not the business of the profession to see that each school receives its capacity enrollment so that next year libraries shall have available "well educated and trained recruits"?

Depleted staffs cannot be replenished, adequate library service cannot be given, library schools cannot begin to meet the demands for trained people, unless every librarian in the country considers the problem of supply and demand his own, and contributes his share towards its solution.

Is it not reasonable to call upon every librarian to assist in meeting this situation? Just now we need to recruit for every apprentice and training class, and especially for the library schools whose sessions will open the last of September.

My connection with A. L. A. headquarters during the last few months leads me to believe that there is no more important problem than this confronting the American Library Association and American libraries as a whole; and that perhaps nothing stands more in the way of library development and extension than this scarcity of competent librarians.

It should also be borne in mind that the man or woman who assists now to bring into the library profession people of real ability is making possible the carrying on of the best traditions of the past and present leaders in the profession.

Here is something where everyone can help a little, which in the aggregate will amount to much.

Request for Material

In a letter to the secretary of the American Library Association from L. J. Zivny of the Czechoslovak Bibliographical institute request is made for pictures and photos relating to American libraries, this illustrative material to be used in a book which Mr Zivny is preparing, which is to acquaint the people of his country with the value of supporting public library service. Mr Zivny is prepared to return any material which the sender may wish to have returned.

Those sending any material are requested to plainly mark the address, state what the material is, what purpose it serves, and any other explanatory data that is necessary.

The A. L. A. library in Paris will be prepared shortly to extend technical help and advice to such European libraries as request assistance.

Illinois Library Association

Annual meeting, Springfield, October 12-14, 1920

Tuesday afternoon, New Leland hotel
Business meeting

Tuesday evening at Arts club parlors

Address of welcome—Louis Emmerson, secretary of state and state librarian, Springfield.

President's address—Helen A. Bagley, librarian, Oak Park public library.

Beauty and the Puritan—Stuart P. Sherman, professor of English, University of Illinois, Urbana.

Social hour.

Wednesday morning

General session: George B. Utley, librarian, Newberry library, Chicago, presiding.

Getting the Board of Directors to work—Mrs. A. W. Errett, Jr., member of Board of Directors, Kewanee public library.

Finding the librarian's place in our educational system—Martha Wilson, librarian, Lincoln library, Springfield.

The art of reading—Theodore W. Koch, librarian, Northwestern university, Evanston.

Wednesday afternoon

Sectional meetings and conferences with sponsors for knowledge, children's librarian's section, Mrs. Eva Cloud Taylor, Oak Park, chairman.

Multiplying the librarian's knowledge of children's books—Anne M. Boyd, University of Illinois library school, Urbana.

Helping children overcome bad reading habits—K. Irene Bowman, Jacksonville public library.

Book talk—Adah F. Whitcomb, Chicago public library.

High school librarian's section—Rachel Baldwin, Highland Park, chairman.

Trustees' and Directors' section, Clara S. Boyle, Glen Ellyn, chairman.

Wednesday evening

Better community conferences—R. E. Hieronymus, University of Illinois, Urbana.

"More books in the home!"—Frederic G. Melcher, executive secretary, National Association of Book Publishers, New York City.

Some realists: English and American. Arthur E. Bostwick, librarian, St. Louis public library.

Thursday morning

Chicago library club survey—Lora Rich, Chicago public library.

Address: The call of the day—Alice S. Tyler, president American Library Association, director Western Reserve library school, Cleveland.

Election of officers.

Adjournment.

***To Keep Faith with the Fallen**

If ye break faith with us who die,
We shall not sleep—

IV

Editor PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

Dear Madam:

I feel impelled to reply to your courteous circular, because of a condition here in New Jersey, which has but recently come under my observation.

Several months ago, a meeting of the State library association was held in our Reid memorial library and we listened to papers and discussion by some of the leading librarians of the state.

To the surprise of our trustees, we heard the following rather amazing principles laid down and, to our greater surprise, they seemed to meet the approval of many of the librarians who are looked upon as leaders in their calling in this state.

First—That the function of a librarian is to furnish information on all subjects to the public and that he has no responsibility for the guidance or direction of the public taste.

Second—That all well-regulated libraries should carry on their shelves and tables the representative radical publications.

These sentiments were elaborated considerably and discussed at some length from different angles, but they are stated above, as reduced to their simplest terms.

Such principles seem characteristic of a period which is famous for confusion of thought, even in high places, and when the most insidious forms of disloyalty and anarchy are pampered by parlor socialists and impractical theorists.

Carry these principles out to their logical conclusion and you should place upon library tables all kinds of obscene writings. Who are we to presume to dictate to the public what it shall read? The public, young people and children included, is entitled to make its own selection!

*A series of letters in answer to the query sent out by Public Libraries as to what work can be done in public book service to help the American people to see right, to think straight and to go forward.

Going a little further, why should the school and the school-teacher have any higher ideal than to impart information? Surely it would be an impertinence to attempt to influence the childish mind or to undertake to instill ideals or high principles in the plastic brain.

Isn't this all a part of a great wave of incredible softness, which has threatened of recent years to engulf our civilization? Softness to the criminal (regardless of his victim), softness to the snake in the grass who strikes at the civilization that protects him, softness and freedom for the crack-brained theorist who injects his invisible poison gas into minds that are weak and warped!

Yes, I believe there is a work for you to do, in the name of the young men of America, who went to Europe and fought and died for us.

You can do something to establish a standard for libraries and librarians—to demonstrate that one of our greatest needs today is for men with convictions, to teach that librarians may help to bring us back to higher and saner levels of thought and action.

You can help to clear up this confusion of thought and to make clear the distinction that we have room in this country for all those who would like to change our government by lawful means, but that we have no room for the man, and no freedom for his speech, who preaches the overthrow of this government by force.

God knows we need to "stabilize the thinking and speaking and reasoning of all our people"! We need to get our feet on the solid ground and our minds on the principles of the virile men who founded this government. We need a strong, fresh breeze to clear away all the fogs and smoke-screens that have been projected over us of recent years.

Very truly yours,

Edward A. Greene.

285 Aycrigg Ave., Passaic, N. J.

* * *

We suggest that the Chamber of Commerce of each city prepare a print-

ed report upon basic conditions as they are found in that locality. This may be used for several years as a part of the literature distributed, and it should be copyrighted. In many instances sales could be made for educational purposes or otherwise. Labor conditions, government and human agencies generally, change from year to year. This material should be compiled annually with a few well written articles showing the public spirit of the place with any advance that has been made during the past twelve months. Well prepared information regarding any city may be used in the local geography classes and should be placed in every public library in the United States. Modern facts dealing with state resources can seldom be found on the library shelves in readable condition, and as far as cities are concerned there is no useful commercial literature available.

A local library can have no more valuable literature for the business man.

MEMBER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
Syracuse, N. Y.

Library Work as an Occupation

Mr Herbert O. Brigham, state librarian of Providence, Rhode Island, in a letter to Director S. L. Rogers, of the Bureau of the census, Washington, D. C., called attention to the classification given to librarians and those interested in library work, in the *Index to Occupations*, issued by the Bureau of census in 1915.

Library catalogers, library assistants, library clerks, library errand boys, are classified under "attendants and helpers," being grouped with circus canvas men and other circus employees, theatre property men, stage mechanics, theatre ushers and theatre attendants. Mr Brigham expresses the opinion that the entire group of library workers should be classified under "professional service" with the exception of errand boys and girls employed in library work. To place a highly trained cataloger, who usually has 2 years' train-

ing after graduation from college, in the present classification, is an improper one. He further urges that the matter should be given attention, and correction made in the next classification *Index*.

The following is Mr Rogers' answer to Mr Brigham:

We realize, of course, that the classification of library workers presented in the classification published in 1915 is not a satisfactory one, and we expect to change this classification at this census. In the classification published in 1915, an attempt was made to group all gainful workers under 428 occupations and occupation groups. This necessitated combining in many cases workers whose work was quite different. At this Census the 428 occupations and occupation groups of the 1915 classification are being expanded into 572 occupations and occupation groups. Library workers will be classified under two headings—"Librarians" and "Librarians' Assistants and Attendants." Catalogers will be classified under "Librarians."

Were the occupations returned on the population schedules at a Federal Census more specifically stated, it might be advisable and practicable to classify library workers in greater detail than they will be classified at this Census. In view of the rather general nature of many of the occupation returns at a Federal Census, it is not believed that it will be advisable to attempt to classify these workers into more than the two groups referred to above.

I desire to thank you for your criticism, and I hope the Fourteenth Census classification of library workers will be satisfactory.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) SAM L. ROGERS,
Director.

* * *

The *Civil Service Commission Bulletin* for the state of New York, inviting examinations for state, county and village service, sets out a very long list of positions and requirements, which, because of the alphabetic arrangement, brings them into sharp contrast:

325. Janitor, \$1200. Subjects of examinations, arithmetic, letter writing, questions on the duties of the position, covering care of building, grounds, heating, ventilation, etc.

324. Librarian, manuscripts and history. New York state library, \$1200. The duties include identification, classification and cataloging of maps, atlases, broadsides, posters and prints, and reference service (personal and correspondence) with the local history and genealogy collections of the State library.

Candidates must be college graduates who have had at least a year in a library school, or equivalent training, and must have some knowledge of the bibliography and literature of American history and genealogy. Candidates will be rated on training, experience and personal qualifications. Their application should show in detail all experience which would be of value. Inquiry will be made as to their character and ability and all statements are subject to verification.

Shelfless Library

A rather curious idea is that started by W. P. Baker, which he calls the "shelfless library" idea. Mr Baker is a literary critic and the thought back of his idea is to share good new books with his friends, after reviewing them. His first idea was to have the shelfless library on a neighborhood basis, but the idea grew and the original intention was modified by removing limitations of locality and town.

A slip has been prepared giving the simple rules of the library which at the same time gives full information concerning them. The shelfless library has no organization. It depends on the interest of those taking part in it and arrangements have been made whereby anybody sending for the slips and pasting them in a book takes part in the circulation. The shelfless library has circulation, but no members—books, but no librarian—friends, but no building, trustees, owners or home. Anybody who wishes to share good current books with others, joins the institution by putting a book into circulation. The explanatory slip keeps it traveling. One reader hands the book to a neighbor. The latter, in turn, may hand it to somebody else, or mail it to any part of the country, or the world. By this method, a good book may have, not one reader, but twenty every year, and keep going until it is worn out.

Post-Standard, Syracuse, N. Y., furnishes the slips to anybody, postpaid.

Putting the Library on the Map

The members of the New York public library staff association recently waged a campaign, the results of which

ought to bring joy to the heart of everyone interested in the advancement of librarianship as a profession. While it is gratifying to know that the salary increases for which this drive was primarily launched, have been assured, results of the campaign which promise eventually to be still more important to the library profession than present salary increases, are daily becoming more evident.

When the rumor came from City Hall that the staff of the New York public library was not to be included in the salary increase shortly to be given to other city employees, the staff association decided that something must be done, and done quickly, to prevent this injustice to the library workers. It was rumored that the librarians were to be excluded from this increase because they are controlled by a board of trustees, instead of by the city officials, and are therefore technically not city employees. The librarians contended that as they are paid by the city, they are therefore actually city employees, and justly entitled to the increase to be granted to city employees generally.

The members of the library staff circulated petitions among the residents of the city, to be signed and presented to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, protesting against the unfairness of excluding the librarians from this increase in salary. The results of circulating the petitions were a revelation to the library staff and to the public as well. The eyes of the people were opened to the importance of their public library, and to its great need for funds; and those who circulated the petitions were amazed and thrilled to know the place that the library has in the hearts of the general public. When library readers signed the petitions, the usual remark which they made was: "It's about time you librarians asked for fair salaries!" A prominent settlement worker said, "Why I was astounded when I heard what low salaries you librarians receive. I consider the public library

one of the greatest institutions for social service. You save the city and the state thousands of dollars in the important part you take in the prevention of crime."

The people showed eagerness to sign the petitions, and in many cases requested petitions to circulate among their friends. Faculties of the schools and colleges took an enthusiastic part in the work. One public school principal not only had her whole staff sign, but asked for more blanks so that she could send her teachers out from door to door with them. An evening school student asked for 50 petitions—space for 2,000 signatures—to circulate among his fellow students. A police captain took petitions to circulate, and a lawyer in the Surrogate's court secured for us many signatures. A group of business men formed a committee to circulate petitions among their associates.

An unlooked for source of help was the joint action of the Patrolmen's benevolent association and the Uniformed Firemen's association, in our behalf. These organizations sent a letter to the Board of Estimate in which they said in part, "We not only desire, but emphatically insist that the New York public library employees be included in the increase, and are perfectly willing to stand the slight loss to ourselves." This letter must have been a blow to those who were insisting that the patrolmen and firemen would suffer if part of the appropriation was used to increase library salaries.

An enthusiastic mass meeting, held under the auspices of the Community councils to aid the campaign, attracted the attention of the newspaper reporters, and started the great newspaper publicity given the campaign. The big city newspapers published articles and editorials not once but several times, in which they emphasized the importance of the public library in the city. The *Evening Mail* said in part: "There appears to be a well-defined scheme in hand to exclude public library workers from the provisions for raising

the salaries of school teachers and other municipal servants in a long deferred effort to close up the yawning gap between their earnings and the high level of the cost of living. For this exclusion of library workers from the benefits of remedial legislation the extraordinary ground is taken that the librarians are administered by a board of trustees, and therefore their status in some mysterious way differs from that of other public servants. The fact remains, however, that public library workers are paid by the city, just as the police, the firemen, and the street cleaners are paid by the city. Unless the city is prepared to sacrifice an important phase of its educational equipment, it must raise the salaries of its library workers, and raise them generously. This is no time for technicalities. We cannot permit our public library service to degenerate into uselessness." The *Evening Telegram*, in a long article said: "The New York public library circulated 10,000,000 books last year, this city outreading London 7 to 1. It is the second biggest cog in the educational system, second only to the public schools." The *New York Tribune* said: "The salary of librarians today is about that of office boys or mediocre stenographers. Most of the young women who minister to New York's thirst for reading matter, and who assist both the self-educating alien, and the ambitious young American to a knowledge of the worthwhile books, receive the niggardly salary of less than \$20 a week." The library came into its own in this campaign in regard to newspaper publicity.

We have been made to realize that there is a necessity of using more energy and originality in bringing before the authorities the need for better salaries for librarians. Appearing before city officials once a year at budget time will not suffice. We need constantly to keep before the authorities the importance of our work. The fact that the officials of a certain city a few years ago refused to grant an increase in the library's budget on the ground that they considered the library one of

the city's luxuries, is an example of the need of educating city officials up to the fact that the public library is a necessity in the community, rather than a luxury.

Therefore, librarians are beginning to awaken to the fact that the public library must advertise. In the past we have been too conservative in the matter of publicity. We cannot keep up with "live-wire" institutions, unless we use "live-wire" methods of keeping our work before the people. We have been too proud of our conservatism and as a result, it cannot be denied, we have not kept the pace with other public institutions in making our work known to the community. By advertising, we do not mean screaming headlines, soap-box speeches, or undignified agitation. We mean keeping our work before the public by all means possible within the dignity of our profession, but especially by the proper kind of newspaper publicity. Perhaps the most important result of the campaign of the New York Public Library staff association is that it has taught us that we must take down the wall of conservatism that has in the past hemmed in the library, if we wish the public fully to understand and appreciate the importance of our profession. If we can arouse the public to a thorough appreciation of the importance of our work, the future welfare of the public library will be assured. The great victory of our recent salary campaign is that it has "put the library on the map" in New York City.

HILAH PAULMIER,
Yonkers, N. Y.

A recent letter to the *New York Times* expressing a high degree of appreciation for the gift, carries the news that Mr W. N. C. Carlton, lately librarian of the Newberry library, Chicago, had presented to the library of Trinity college, Hartford, Connecticut, a valuable collection of books relating to Scandinavian literature, history and travel.

It is stated that Dr Carlton had been

keenly interested in all that pertains to the culture of northern countries and consequently had brought together a collection of books, that tho not large (about 350 volumes), admirably represents what is best and of most interest in this field.

The letter referred to sets forth the importance of opening in all colleges, even as has been done in this New England college, Trinity, an opportunity to study the great literature of the countries that have contributed to the greatness of the literature of the world. Barriers of language and space ought not to hinder the march of ideas or the great movements of thought. In America, these great literatures are entering into the warp and woof of American thought as a specific and valuable contribution in the development of common American life and civilization.

Norwegian Public Libraries

Statement was made recently that there were 1,300 state supported free public libraries in Norway. This seemed rather a large number in view of what is known generally of the library development of that country, so a letter was addressed to Mr Arne Kildal, formerly librarian at Bergen, but at present Press attaché Norwegian legation, Washington, D. C., asking as to the truth of the statement.

Mr Kildal writes:

The statement that Norway has 1300 free public libraries, tax supported, is probably correct, but it is true, also, that a number of these are very small libraries, having less than 100 volumes. Many of them have only from 100 to 200 volumes. In view of the small population of the country, only two and one-half millions, this in many cases is deemed sufficient for the demands of the small country boroughs.

The Presidential Campaign

Why should I concern myself about all the political discussion that is associated with the coming election? Why should you bother about it? For exactly the same reason that any other citizen of the nation should bother about it. You admit, don't you, that someone has a duty to be interested in such matters? Why is that someone other than you?

You simply cannot give a reason. There is

none to give. The provision and maintenance of a governing department competent and pledged to promote the common weal is a necessity of divine origin, and cannot, without divine displeasure, be shirked by a nation's voters. In a republican form of government such as ours each citizen is equally responsible with every other in this matter and equally powerful.

The man or woman who omits altogether to study the avowed policies of the several candidates with a single view of their practical suitability to safeguard and promote our national well-being is shirking a duty for whose performance we are answerable to God.

Must you bother? You must.

—*Magazine of Catholic Activities.*

Americanization Work in Seattle Public Library

The forming of an Americanization collection was one of the outstanding features of last year's work at the Seattle public library. The collection consists of books drawn from different classes, all having a more or less direct bearing on various phases of American life, customs, history, government, citizenship requirements, ideas and ideals. These books have been shelved in a section adjoining that in which are shelved books teaching the English language and near the books in other languages. The first month's circulation proved the collection wholly insufficient to the demands made upon it, more than one embarrassing occasion having arisen when an expectant student from a Y. M. C. A. naturalization class, or a night school class, responding to an invitation to make good use of this collection, had to be told that not one book on naturalization was in.

Prior to 1919, it was the custom of the library to obtain from the federal authorities the names and addresses of applicants for citizenship, mailing to each of them a letter of information about the library. While the response to this communication represented a gratifying percentage of the number of letters mailed, it was decided that an even greater number of prospective citizens might be reached if this information were put directly into the

hands of those making application for citizenship, instead of being mailed to an address that might be changed overnight. To this end, a card was devised: On one side was an introduction of the bearer to the public library by the U. S. naturalization examiner and on the reverse side, was a cordial invitation to use the library, with the location of the main library and of the branches.

As the character of the foreign population of Seattle has varied greatly during the past five years, it seemed desirable to make some investigation of the languages being read besides English, and accordingly the following question has been asked every applicant for a library card: "What languages besides English do you read?" Tally has been kept of the languages given in reply and the following statistics thus obtained should prove helpful in foreign book selection:

Bohemian	13
Dano-Norwegian	879
Dutch	56
Finnish	77
French	2079
German	1390
Hebrew	39
Italian	268
Lithuanian	10
Modern Greek	57
Polish	58
Russian	173
Spanish	891
Swedish	725
Yiddish	97

It must be borne in mind that the 6,893 new readers of foreign languages only represent those becoming borrowers in 1919 and do not include those reading these same languages already registered. Other languages reported read, and the number reading them included in the 6,893 new readers, are: Albanian 1, Arabian 6, Armenian 3, Bulgarian 1, Croatian 3, Esthonian 1, Hungarian 8, Icelandic 12, Malay 2, Portuguese 7, Roumanian 5, Ruthenian 1, Serbian 4, Slovenian 5, Syrian 2, Turkish 5, and Welsh 15.

By taking note of the names and addresses of the people reading the foreign languages whose occupations gave evidence of education above the average, the library has been able to

compile a directory of possible translators and interpreters, which is proving of service to other civic organizations and to business houses applying for translations of foreign correspondence.

The ends so far achieved seem the fruition of the last five years' effort on the part of the library to awaken a consciousness in the community of its potentialities as an Americanizing force. It has been easy to win the immigrant's confidence in the efficacy of the help he can get from the library in becoming an American, but not until this year has there been the equally strong proof that the native-born citizen has begun to turn to the library for guidance in the no less significant task of preparing the ground, so to speak, for his transplanted brother. Once this year the tables were turned, and a foreign-born mother sought aid in the Americanization of her native-born son. The woman had become naturalized thru her husband, and her child was born in this country, but on the death of her husband, she returned with the baby to Finland, where her father promised them a home. Times grew hard and she returned to America, leaving her son in the care of her father until such time as she could earn enough to make a home for him in America. She had almost accomplished her object when the war broke out. Four of her brothers were killed, and the old father lost both home and business. Her many years' savings that were to have brought her son to his American home have gone little by little to providing the merest necessities of life for the old man and the boy, and now when the war is over, no money is available to bring the son here. But she is undaunted. She says her son is proud of his American birth, and in spite of meager opportunity, is striving to learn "his own language." With eager ambition she has sought the library's help in planning a course of reading and study for him, so that when he finally comes to the land of his birth, it may indeed seem home.

Libraries at the State Fair

According to its usual custom the Iowa library commission had an exhibit of commission and traveling library work at the Iowa state fair, with attractive posters calling attention also to the county library idea as well as to reading in general. A room 25x30 feet has been provided each year, and this is made as attractive as possible. While the number of borrowers secured is not large, it gives the people of the state an opportunity to see the library part of its educational facilities, and many callers each year become acquainted with the opportunity for borrowing books thru the state agency.

This year in addition to the exhibit, at the request of the committee in charge of the Women and Children's building, a Library trustees' conference was held on Monday afternoon, August 30, with Mr J. B. Weaver, member of the Des Moines library board, presiding, and talks on "Making the library a factor in community life" and "Rural extension and county library work," were followed by brief discussions.

About 100 were in attendance, and more than 25 libraries were represented. This is, we believe, the first gathering of the kind at a State fair.

J. A. R.

An Echo of War Service

At the annual meeting of the Booksellers' Association at Philadelphia last summer, there was a gathering of writers, a list of whom might be thought to have been taken from a catalog of library lights.

Captain Kermit Roosevelt, author of the War in the Garden of Eden, was received with great enthusiasm.

American books, said the captain, played an important part in the reading of the British Tommies, O. Henry claiming first place, Owen Wister making a good second and Jack London standing very high. Kipling was more popular in the American army than in the English, tho the American army, he said, "took any books it could get."

Captain Roosevelt told of the books which were read by the English Tommies in Mesopotamia and by American doughboys in France. He unconsciously revealed the fact that the books he himself read in rest billets and whenever opportunity presented, were printed in English, French, Arabic and Greek. He acknowledged the great debt not only he, but all who were with the fighting forces in the war owed to books.

English News Letter

London, England.

May 28, 1920.

Mr Patrick J. Fanelly's letter in your May number, inevitably leads to the mention of that most important and unfortunate matter—the fact that the Public Libraries Act of 1919 applies only to England and Wales. That I have not discussed this before is because there is, I am afraid, very little definite or satisfactory news to be conveyed,—tho there is every prospect of some legislative action before long, particularly as far as Scotland is concerned. Briefly the position as regards that country is as follows:

In reply to a question in the House of Commons in February last, Mr Robert Munro, secretary for Scotland, intimated his intention to await the views of the Convention of Royal Burghs of Scotland which would discuss the matter. At their meeting on the sixth of April, the convention decided, almost unanimously, to recommend the extension of the rate limit to 3d. (An amendment to abolish the rate was moved but afterwards withdrawn lest the issue should be complicated.) The Scottish library association and the Library association having both also made representations to Mr Munro, it is to be hoped that immediate steps will be taken.

With Ireland, things are not so satisfactory—but then it must be remembered that the present unrest in Ireland is a decided deterrent to any legislation on such a peaceable matter as the

extension of the library rate. With, as a recent contributor to the *Library Association Record* states, "the streets of Dublin patrolled by soldiers equipped in trench equipment and paraded by tanks and armoured cars, and with three persons constituting an illegal assembly in the streets," it is obvious that there are more serious and more immediate problems to be solved by the government. I say this with no intention of offending even the most ardent champions of library development or of minimizing the plight of the Irish libraries whose case Mr Fanelly has presented. It would be absurd to offer the removal of the penny limit as an immediate panacea for Ireland's present ills, and I am afraid it is only natural to expect the matter to be overlooked in these times. Apart from that, tho possibly due indirectly to internal troubles, Irish librarians have made no united and representative representations to the responsible minister, altho the Library association has done much. Should the Irish emulate the dogged persistency of their Scottish co-workers perhaps success *will* be awarded them.

While dealing with this matter it is interesting to note that the Education act of Scotland, 1918, gave education authorities power to provide books not only for children and students but also for the adult population, so there is a loophole by which, pending something more satisfactory, the need of the populace may be met.

I do not know the extent to which British Government "Blue Books" are circulated in America, but if they are at all easily obtainable I recommend the final report of the Adult Education committee of the Ministry of Reconstruction, and the report of the Royal Commission on public records to the notice of American librarians. They are both full of valuable and interesting information.

Since my last letter was penned English librarians have heard with deep regret of the death of two distinguished members of our profession, Mr C. W. Sutton, the chief librarian of

Manchester public libraries, and Mr Charles Madeley, of Warrington.

Mr Sutton, the son of a Manchester bookseller, was born in that town as long ago as 1848, and in his eighteenth year joined the staff of the Manchester libraries as an assistant in the reference department. On the retirement in 1874, of Mr W. E. A. Axon, the then assistant librarian, he was promoted to the vacant post, and five years later he succeeded Dr Crestadoro as chief, a position he filled until his death. Under Mr Sutton's direction the Manchester libraries developed from a small system with only three branches to the present splendidly organized one with its 23. He was also responsible for the early introduction of "open access," and for the provision of children's departments and the special collections which are a feature of the present system. Mr Sutton, however, did not limit his activities to purely professional work, publishing many valuable bibliographical and antiquarian writings. The honorary degree of Master of Arts was conferred upon him by Manchester university in 1902.

Mr Madeley, who was Mr Sutton's junior by only about two years, had occupied the post of librarian and curator of Warrington public libraries and museum since 1874. An original member and a councilor of the Library association, he was also a past president of the Museums association. Like Mr Sutton, he was well known as a writer both on professional and literary subjects.

* * *

August 26, 1920.

The months which have ensued since my last letter was written have at least brought some definite steps towards the bettering of the financial position of the public libraries of Ireland and Scotland. Bills to amend the laws of both countries are now before the House, and, tho in neither case is it at all satisfactory in its provisions, they will afford temporary relief and be stepping stones to the inevitable enactments of the future. It will be a mat-

ter for great surprise if either bill should fail to become law.

The Irish bill simply provides that "threepence in the pound" shall be substituted for 'one penny in the pound' as the limit on the rate which may be levied in any borough or other urban district or town for the purposes of the Public libraries (Ireland) Acts, 1855 to 1911; provided that in any *county borough* the said limit of threepence in the pound may, with the consent of the Local Government Board, be exceeded to an extent not exceeding threepence in the pound" (i. e., in all sixpence in the pound may be levied).

The Public Libraries (Scotland) Bill, 1920, which was introduced by the Rt. Hon. Robert Munro, P. C., K. C., M. P., secretary for Scotland, on June 22, proposes a similar rate limitation of threepence in the pound. In consequence of this suggested restriction, delegates of the Scottish library association made a representation to Mr Munro on July 8, asking that the powers given to library authorities in England and Wales should be given also to the Scottish authorities,—that is, that there should be no fixed limit, that it should be possible to levy any necessary sum. As the limit of threepence was, however, that proposed by the Convention of Royal Burghs last April, it was pointed out that the removal of the limit in Scotland was very unlikely to be sanctioned at present, and the association decided, instead, to move an amendment by which the maximum for burghs may be raised to sixpence, as is provided in the Irish bill.

It will be seen that neither bill can be considered as anything but a stop-gap.

Of England nothing of outstanding importance is to be recorded this month. Most librarians have been turning all their energies and ingenuity to bear upon the slow and not too sure work of persuading their local authorities to avail themselves of the powers given them last year. So, tho doubtless the future will see the effect of these internal efforts, at present there is noth-

ing startling to report from the English front. Perhaps the approaching Annual conference of the Library association, to be held at Norwich in September, will provide a plethora of news. At any rate the program is an interesting one, and the fact that the Rt. Hon. J. Herbert Lewis, P.C., M. P., Parliamentary secretary to the Board of Education, has accepted the office of president of the association must lead to some important developments in the relationship between library workers and the Government, which will have vital influence upon our future. Mr Lewis, it will be remembered, introduced the 1919 Bill into the House of Commons and was largely responsible for its speedy passage; he is a real enthusiast in library affairs.

The first session of the London University school of librarianship terminated in June. There were 98 students who availed themselves of the course, 29 sitting for one or more sections of the Diploma examination. On the whole, the year has been a most successful one, and there is every evidence that the school will become a permanent training ground. The prospectus for the coming year is now published. The lecturers of last session will continue their respective courses and, in addition, Mr W. C. Berwick-Sayers will deliver a short course of lectures on Library work for children, Mr Richard Wright, of the Wiltshire County libraries will deal with Rural library systems and Mr H. A. Twort with the Central library for students, and Prof. Spearman is responsible for an introductory course on Aids to study. The public lectures, which were a feature of last session, will be continued, Prof. Pollard, and Messrs J. M. Mitchell (secretary of the Carnegie United Kingdom Trust), C. T. Jacobi, and Cyril Davenport being among the lecturers.

The fourth annual Summer school of library service organized by the Library association and the University of Wales and held at Aberystwyth a few weeks ago, proved to be the valuable and extremely enjoy-

able institution which it is now expected to be. These summer schools, which are not *too* severely tutorial, the valuable educational work is done by them, are entirely to be praised as providing a means of intercourse between library workers from all parts of the country.

As I predicted in my last letter, Mr L. Stanley Jast has been appointed chief librarian of Manchester in succession to the late Mr C. W. Sutton.

LIONEL ROY MCCOLVIN.

Fire Prevention Day

For nearly 50 years, Chicago and Illinois have celebrated October 9 as Fire Prevention day. This is the anniversary day of the Chicago fire and is now observed by three-fourths of the states in the Union as Fire Prevention day.

The Chicago Association of Commerce has issued a statement containing information of interest concerning fire prevention. Among other things are various ways by which interest can be aroused in the matter, with a view of increasing fire prevention and consequent safety, and also developing a civic and local pride that will be beneficial to a community in other ways.

1. Do's and Dont's

How to prevent fires in your home

Don't put ashes in other than metal receptacles, and don't dump them where they will come in contact with combustible materials.

Don't use an open light when looking for escaping gas or in the presence of inflammable liquids.

Don't use insecticides or liquid polishes in the vicinity of open flame lights. Many such compounds contain volatile inflammable oils.

Don't use gasoline or benzine to cleanse clothing near an open flame, light or fire.

Don't use kerosene, benzine or naptha in lighting fires, or to quicken a slow fire—it may result in death.

Don't permit oily rags to lie around.

Don't hang electric cords on nails.

Don't make bonfires of rubbish where the wind can scatter it. Burn it in a container.

Don't throw away lighted matches, cigars and cigarets.

Keep waste paper and rubbish cleaned up, and remove from building at least daily.

Keep gasoline in safety cans and in a safe place.

Don't let the fact that you are insured make you careless.

A Bag of Entertainment

The Los Angeles public library has put into practice a wholly original idea. It has bought a quantity of paper bags, such as are popular with busy shoppers, and into each has put six enticing books, listing and describing them on the outside of the bags, which are placed on a table ready for the busy man or woman leaving hurriedly on a vacation. The six books may be kept a month and they represent the most likable and exhilarating reading in the library. A clever poster calls attention to them, in the following lines:

A turquoise book for mid-day,
A golden book for dawn,
A calico book for kitchens,
And a green book for the lawn.
Poetry for starlight,
Drama for the moon,
And fiction for the hammock
In the lazy afternoon.
Love songs for lovers,
Mad songs for fools,
Romance for the stay-at-homes,
And ghost books for ghouls.

The bags are disappearing rapidly and as they are stamped in large black letters, **LOS ANGELES PUBLIC LIBRARY**, they are an excellent advertisement. People find them an easy way of carrying so many books and containing, as they do, only non-fiction, the circulation of literature is going up instead of down during the summer months. The idea is such a success that the Los Angeles public library is eager to pass it along.

M. G. S.

Coöperation Between Special and Public Librarians

Dorsey W. Hyde, Jr., president of the Special libraries association and librarian of the Packard Motor Car Co., in his address at Colorado Springs used the following significant statement:

"How can we, as individual public and special librarians, realize the best interests of our profession? There can be but one answer to this question, and that is thru close and friendly co-operation. Progressive business cor-

porations today have fewer secrets than ever before and they realize that secrecy and ignorance are a definite impediment to the continued progress and prosperity of any business undertaking. As a result of this new attitude, storehouses of specialized information are daily becoming more generally available, and the commercial library will soon be able to articulate its service with that of the Public library to the benefit of both institutions.

Let us hope that every member of the profession will make full use of his opportunity, and that henceforth co-operation between the public librarian and the special librarian will rapidly increase."

* * *

An interesting letter from Prof Ralph Power, librarian of Boston university, sets out the idea of branch business libraries in view of the extensive branching out of business firms and colleges. He pictures a student studying two years in one of these branch business colleges in a foreign country and then finishing his remaining two years in the Boston university.

"In relation to the library facilities, branch libraries are contemplated for all branches. Supervised from the main business administration library in Boston there will be a standard practice manual covering, so far as practicable, rules for cataloging, classifying, exchange of personnel, rules and regulations, uniform furniture and fixtures, grades of assistants, and the like. Monthly shipments will be sent from Boston to comprise books, periodicals, and pamphlet material while each branch will have a fund for the purchase of books in the country in which it is located. Each branch library will be administered from the main library and a resident librarian will be in immediate charge.

Thus we see some of the library problems in the expansion of business education. This expansion will inevitably bring about a larger opportunity for coöperation between public, university and college libraries."

American Library Association**A letter from the Executive Board***

Sept. 25, 1920.

To the Members of the A. L. A.:

The new Executive Board is confronted by a responsibility that has never before faced an Executive Board of the A. L. A. We have had precipitated upon us, thru no choice of our own, a three-fold responsibility. We have the inheritance from the War Service committee, which is considerable. We have the inheritance of the Enlarged Program committee, which seems to be peculiarly perplexing. We have the regular A. L. A. activities.

In the funds turned over to the Executive Board by the War Service committee is a balance from the first campaign, over which the A. L. A. has complete control. Most of the War Service balance was from the second campaign, the use of which is to a considerable extent under the control of the Committee of Eleven, which has the final decision as to the expenditures of all the War fund balances of the United War Workers fund.

Under legal opinion the Executive Board has power to use the balance left from the first campaign in liquidating a part of the loan to the committee on Enlarged Program.

Transactions of the Executive Board

At the first meeting of the present Executive Board, June 7, in Colorado Springs, it was voted:

That upon the discontinuance of the Enlarged Program committee, July 15, the appeal for funds shall continue and the regional and state directors be kept intact.

That the committee on Enlarged Program be continued with publicity employees to September 1, with the understanding that the expenses must come within the limits of the appropriations made for campaign purposes.

George B. Utley and Josephine A. Rathbone were appointed to membership on the Publishing Board.

*The material used here is a condensation of the letter. The latter will be printed and distributed to the A. L. A. membership.

George B. Utley, A. S. Root and H. W. Craver were appointed as a finance committee.

A committee on Ways and Means was appointed "to continue the activities of the Enlarged Program committee's appeal for funds." Adam Strohm, A. S. Root and Louise B. Krause were appointed.

H. H. B. Meyer and Miss Edith Tobitt were appointed a committee to consider the transfer of Library War Service activities to governmental or other agencies.

The president of the Association was empowered to employ the services of a counselor-at-law to advise the Executive Board on matters on which it may wish to secure legal authority.

The second meeting was held July 15-16 in New York City. The final report of the committee on Enlarged Program was presented and received and the committee discharged. The report will be printed and distributed.

Mr Milan was added to the Ways and Means committee and it was voted that the committee be instructed to report a detailed recommendation at the next meeting of the Executive Board, looking to the termination of the Library War Service on January 1, 1921, and that pending this report, no new enterprises be undertaken.

Library War Service budget

The following War Service budget, July 1-December 31, 1920, was adopted as a basis for operations.

Estimated income.

General director's account.....	\$ 78,637
Cash	30,614
Liberty Bonds, U. S. stamps, etc....	211,835
Due from committee on Enlarged Program	202,340

Total\$523,428

Note: If Liberty Bonds are sold at 15 per cent loss, deduct about \$32,000. If committee on E. P. does not return campaign funds, deduct, \$202,340.

Estimated expenditures.

Hospital service and books for blind	\$ 40,000
Merchant Marine	65,000
Ex-service men	35,000
Industrial war work	10,000
Paris headquarters	20,000

Insular possessions and others over seas	20,000
Navy	5,000
Headquarters expense and general departments	55,000

Total\$250,000

The board authorized the making of tentative arrangements for the transfer of War Service funds to the treasurer of the association; voted \$80,000 for Library War Service operating expenses and authorized the sale of certain securities held for the Library War Service fund. The authority and duties involved in the office of the director general were vested in the secretary of the A. L. A.

Regular A. L. A. budget

The estimated income, July 1-December 31, is \$21,852, this from dues, endowment, interest, book sales, balances, etc.

Estimated expenditures, July 1-December 31, 1920, salaries, travel, expenses and balance, \$21,852.

The secretary was officially designated as a member of the council of the National Information Bureau meeting in Washington City.

W. N. C. Carlton, director of the American library in Paris, and European representative of the A. L. A. was authorized to represent the A. L. A. at the Brussels conference of the Institut International de' Bibliographie, and the annual meeting of the British library association.

It was voted further:

That the headquarters arrange to have an A. L. A. representative at the state meetings of associations as requested.

That arrangement be made for a mid-winter meeting of the council in Chicago during the holiday season.

That the Executive Board instruct the committee on Ways and Means to reduce the employees and expenses of the campaign organization as rapidly as possible; to eliminate them entirely as soon as it may be feasible in the interests of the Association and report plans at the next meeting of the Executive Board.

Transfer of funds

Inasmuch as the report of the En-

larged Program committee, which is in print, showed a considerable deficit and the Executive Board sought to meet this condition with unassigned balances, it was voted:

1. That the balance available of the First War Service fund be paid on the loan made to the committee on Enlarged Program out of the second Library War Service fund.

2. That the loan—\$52,340 from the first Library War Service fund—paid to the committee on Enlarged Program, be cancelled.

3. That the sum expended by the Library War Service committee for the expenses of the second Library War Service campaign, \$79,062 be charged against the second Library War Service fund and credited to the first Library War Service fund.

4. That when so credited, the amount \$79,062 be used to repay the loan to the committee on the Enlarged Program from the second Library War Service fund.

This action has the effect of paying \$137,265 of the campaign expense with moneys in the first fund, thus liquidating the loan to that extent. (There will be a slight decrease in this sum because of the loss on Liberty Bonds when sold).

It was voted that \$25,000 from the campaign expense fund be paid back to the Library War Service fund.

Legal opinion on this, briefly quoted, states:

It is the duty of the Association both in law and good morals, to repay to the first fund, the moneys advanced by it for the prosecution of the second campaign, and to devote any moneys now in its hands or coming to it in return for funds advanced, to the discharge of its obligations incurred in the prosecution of the Enlarged Program campaign.

The Board authorized the transfer of the campaign expense funds from the retiring chairman of the committee on the Enlarged Program to the treasurer of the Association, at such time as is convenient to both parties, and that pending this transaction, the disbursement of this money remain in the same hands in which it has heretofore been.

The outlook

The board believes that there are hopeful possibilities for the immediate future, calling for the united support of every member of the A. L. A. in the following directions:

1. Securing a larger membership. Let each member add at least one person to the membership list, thru personal invitation.

2. Assisting in the creation of a National board of certification and standardization which shall be a stabilizing factor in grading and dignifying library service and improving library salaries.

3. Interesting promising young men and women in library work.

4. Strengthening the helpful service to be rendered by the headquarters office as rapidly as the revenues admit by

a) Developing the employment bureau.

b) Extending aid to undeveloped territories.

c) Giving information and encouragement in response to requests.

5. Keeping open the channels for contributions and subscriptions to the A. L. A. . . . to the end that the publicity secured and the work done thruout the country may yield the largest possible results.

(Signed)

ALICE S. TYLER,

President.

CARL H. MILAM,

Secretary.

Professional Training

At the session of the Professional training section of the A. L. A. at the Colorado Springs meeting, a paper on the summer school as a factor in professional training was presented by Harriet Howe.

In discussing it, P. L. Windsor of University of Illinois school, questioned the requirement that all summer school students should be in library positions. He called this position a legacy from Miss Plummer, who didn't want the summer school to be a short cut to the profession, and who feared that an open door to the courses would lower the standards.

Mr Windsor advocated a change. He is convinced that it does not raise

standards to require a position in a library and more emphasis should be given to educational requirements. He thought professionally we should be better off to take away position requirement and take in anybody with educational requirements. Nearly all summer schools now require high school standing. If in addition, they require a year in normal school, the schools will get more people. This section of the A. L. A. alone ought not to take the final action. The library commissions ought to be consulted regarding summer schools. In regard to Miss Howe's proposal that courses be given to teachers in library schools, Mr Windsor felt such courses were not necessary. Four years' college or normal school and one year library school ought to give an intelligent pupil all she needs of pedagogy. Such persons ought to be able to teach without a formal course.

Mr Malcolm G. Wyer said his experience in the Iowa summer library schools and with small library problems in Nebraska proved that library schools were not founded as testing ground, but to meet a definite problem of how to take care of the libraries. There is a definite need where the small village library, opened short hours with small salary makes it necessary to secure best librarians possible from local material and this local material knows nothing of library matters or ideals. Short school courses are necessary for them for instruction and inspiration and broader view. The same reason obtains in other states besides Iowa and Nebraska. He expressed the belief that better librarians should be appointed to the library schools. There should be better instructors for all the schools, broader and more inspirational instructors. An important need not met is better financial support of libraries. This will come about when librarians themselves have larger visions of their work.

Miss Tyler said that the whole question of library schools should be reconsidered as conditions have changed

since present standards were adopted. Mr Sanborn of Connecticut, agreed with Miss Tyler and he thinks commissions will have nothing further to do with summer schools. This belongs with the regular university summer school which is a growing type of school and which will not insist on library positions.

Miss Downey of Utah, found that state work was sadly handicapped because persons were appointed to important positions without professional, educational or personal qualifications and that all three were equally necessary.

Mr Reece of the New York library school, thought there ought to be more attention given to making plain to applicants what is meant by library training. A good summer library school is all that is necessary in some cases.

Production of Children's Books

Report of A. L. A. committee

The Committee on the production of children's books submits to the Children's Librarians' section of the American Library Association the following report for the year:

The committee has followed the recommendation made by last year's committee that we study carefully the list of 10 titles to which their originally long list of out-of-print books was finally reduced. One of these titles was found to be in print. One was superseded by a later book. One title was out of date in its information. Three seemed to be in slight demand. The remaining titles are apparently wanted by libraries and accordingly they were incorporated in a new list, prepared by the present committee.

During the past year, far more than previously, books that the libraries need imperatively have been dropped from publishers' lists, owing to the greatly increased cost of production.

Acting upon the suggestions contained in the letters from publishers to last year's committee, we are attempting to secure an expression of opinion

as to the use of these books in public libraries in order to furnish, not a guaranty, but an estimated measure of the extent of that use.

It seemed to the committee best to keep the list reasonably short and 28 titles, reported as wanted in different parts of the country, were selected for immediate consideration.

These titles have been submitted to the libraries in cities over 300,000 in population, with the request that they be checked and the number of copies each library might buy, indicated tentatively. Not all the lists are returned, but the larger proportion have been received and the results are very encouraging. They show that for the majority of these titles the library demand is probably sufficient to secure republication. When the returns are all in, the committee will prefer their requests to the different publishers.

A second list may be issued if the first venture meets with action by the publishing houses. The committee has already in hand suggestions for it. We find that in some cases firms are reprinting books temporarily out of stock, reported to us as out of print and unobtainable.

Quite as pressing as the matter of out-of-print books, is the subject of the physical make-up of books that the libraries are receiving. From every quarter come protests against the quality of paper used and the flimsy character of bindings, calculated to last, under library wear, only a few weeks at most.

While librarians recognize many of the difficulties confronting the book producer and know that increased cost of books is inevitable, we believe we should expect fair returns in durability and length of book service.

According to persons in a position to judge, very little improvement in the paper situation seems likely before 1921. The inferior paper used in war time can now be replaced by better grades, but at a greatly increased price. This advanced cost is met in some firms by a large advance in selling

price, in others by sacrificing the standard of excellence, in others, we regret to say, by doing both.

For illustrated books a heavily glazed paper is required and this adds to the weight of a book and its consequent likelihood of breaking from the binding.

In respect to bindings the committee is beginning to voice the libraries' protests to the publishers in the hope that they will realize how seriously the faulty output will affect their library trade.

The notes on the physical make-up and wearing qualities of children's books have been continued by Miss Wheelock of St. Louis, who began a study for this purpose last year. These annotations are proving of real value in our correspondence with publishers. Already one request has come from a well-known house for permission to see the notes relating to its own publications. After examining them the representative writes that he would greatly appreciate seeing reports on any other titles as the committee examines them, adding that, "it is only thru frank criticism of this sort that the highest ideals of publishing may be obtained."

A similar spirit has been shown whenever the committee has made its recommendations. Another publisher writes, "Your suggestions relative to binding, etc., were very helpful and we shall take advantage of them in subsequent printings." Altho this cordial readiness to accept friendly criticism indicates the sincerity of purpose in our best publishing houses, it seems important to proceed slowly and use tact in passing on to others our frank judgments on their work.

As to any lowering of book prices all hopes have vanished. On the first of July book binders are to have a still further advance in wages, and the publishers will have to pay it or cease publishing. The libraries will be obliged to reduce purchase still more.

Other fields of possible activity open as the publishers recognize the committee as representative of the chil-

dren's librarians of the country. Perhaps because of Mr Hoyt's paper at the Asbury Park conference, the Houghton, Mifflin Company does so regard the committee and recently referred to it a question concerning the scope of a proposed book. Members of the committee made separate comments upon the plan announced and we are told that author and publisher found them helpful.

It is hoped that more definite results will be accomplished in the next year of work.

Respectfully submitted,

For the committee,

ALICE M. JORDAN,
Chairman.

Distinguished Visitors

Dr Fredrik Hjelmgiirst, library commissioner of Sweden, and Mr E. G. Asplund, architect, of Stockholm, are visiting libraries in the United States, studying library affairs generally, and library buildings in particular. Their itinerary includes some of the leading public and university libraries, library commissions, etc., thruout the country, and A. L. A. headquarters.

The following positions are open for candidates and to those who are interested to hear of them by writing either to PUBLIC LIBRARIES or to the Employment department of the A. L. A.

1. A general assistant, library school trained in a business library, devoted to the lumber interests.
2. Cataloger to organize a university library in the middle West.
3. County librarians on the Pacific coast.
4. Assistant in business library in Chicago.
5. Librarians for three towns of more than 15,000 in the middle West.
6. A general assistant in catalog and reference work in a college library.
7. A librarian for a steel mill town, middle West. Salary \$3,000.

Salaries in all of these are more than \$1,200 a year.

Library Meetings

California—The Pasadena library club was recently organized and at its first meeting, about 30 were present. The object of the organization is to promote friendly acquaintance and co-operative relations among librarians and those interested in library work with the purpose of increasing the usefulness and advancing the interests of the libraries of Pasadena and vicinity.

The officers are: President, Miss Helen E. Haines, secretary-treasurer, Miss Frances H. Spining. Pasadena is quite fortunate in having six libraries in its midst, the Pasadena public library and its branches, the Mt. Wilson Observatory library, the Pasadena high-school library, the Pasadena elementary schools library, the California Institute of Technology library and the wonderful Henry Huntington library which will soon be completed.

At the meeting in August, the Pasadena library club had the honor of giving an informal reception at the Pasadena public library to Miss Alice S. Tyler, the recently elected president of the American Library Association who is spending her vacation in Southern California.

F. H. S.

Massachusetts—The Bay Path library club held its annual meeting in Hudson, June 24. A review of the principal recent books in biography, travel, fiction and children's books was conducted by Ella Miersch.

Miss Mae G. Cahill of Leominster gave an address on "Americanization and the public library," explaining some of the methods and ways in which the public library can help. She emphasized, especially, story-telling and pictures.

Miss J. Maud Campbell of the Massachusetts library commission pointed out the great opportunity to help in the work of Americanization which the library has. She advocated the breaking down of social barriers and the cultivation of friendly relations with the foreign-born. She also gave a list of

free literature on the subject of Americanization which the libraries could easily obtain. Both speakers pointed out the need in native-born Americans of better understanding of Americanization opportunities as well as that needed for foreigners.

Miss Florence E. Wheeler presided at the meeting, and Mrs Grace M. Whittemore librarian of the Hudson public library was hostess for the day.

MABEL E. KNOWLTON.

The Old Colony library club of Plymouth county, held its twenty-sixth meeting on September 9, in the building of the Old Bridgewater historical society, with its various tablets upon the walls commemorating some of the pioneers of this district.

At the close of the business meeting, Mr F. H. Whitmore, president of the club, spoke of the Enlarged Program of the A. L. A. and urged that all help who could do so.

Miss Alice M. Belcher, librarian of Randolph public library, gave an interesting account of a day at the Simmons library institute. She repeated the plea for books of pure English for the children's shelves citing the Dutch Twins as an excellent example. As many children do not advance beyond the grade schools it is all the more necessary that they read books of a good type in early childhood.

Frank M. Barnard of Boston with the subject "The binding and repair of books," gave the club a helpful address. Stating that a book is a scientific proposition made in a scientific way and should be treated in a common-sense manner, he demonstrated the correct way of opening a book in order to prolong its service, then told how to prepare a book for the binder, and urged not to let the books get in too poor condition before sending them. As wear and service are what is wanted, library buckram is the best medium for covers in rebinding. A book well-rebound will give at least twice the service that it will in its original cover. He illustrated the method of repairing

torn pages, and told how to repair valuable plates in books. He also described a machine recently perfected which replaces the former method of sewing books by hand.

The round table on new books, Biography by Lilian C. Kerr, Books about Pilgrims for children by Miss Gleason, Farm methods by Mrs Julia Morton, Fiction by Miss Eddy was followed by a general discussion of the subject.

After luncheon, Mrs Carolyn Kaharl entertained the club with "America in melody and story." Her program consisted of recitations and records played on the Victrola with a brief sketch of the composer whose music she reproduced.

Officers of the club for the coming year are: President, Mr Joshua E. Crane, Public library, Taunton; vice president, Maud B. Colcord, Loring reading room, North Plymouth; treasurer, Mrs Hattie E. Cary, Public library, West Bridgewater; secretary, Miss Helen A. Brown, Branch library, Montello.

HELEN A. BROWN.

Michigan—The year 1919-20 was a most successful one for the Ann Arbor library club. The attendance averaged forty-four, an increase over last year.

The program of the year was both interesting and varied. Mr W. W. Bishop gave a comprehensive paper on "The library and post school education." At the meeting at Martha Cook residence hall, the program was most interesting, consisting of the war reminiscences of S. W. McAllister, E. H. Ketcham, Miss Esther Braley and F. L. D. Goodrich. Later Mr F. P. Jordan gave a clear and interesting paper on Classification in the University library. The club had as its guest and speaker one evening, Mr Browning of Jackson, who spoke on "The problem of the librarian and public library of a moderate sized community." At another time, Mr F. P. Jordan entertained the meeting with a talk on "Sir Anthony Panizzi," at another, Mrs Clare Mullet gave a delightful paper on "Why I read

fiction," and Miss Evelyn Walker ably discussed "Modern poetry." At this meeting Mr B. A. Finney read two letters from Mr Severance.

The club held its annual picnic at the home of Mr and Mrs Joseph Steere, Packard road. Mr Finney, having written music for "The song of the library staff" by the late Samuel W. Foss, the club sang it several times.

The following are the officers for the coming year. President, S. W. McAllister; vice-presidents, Miss Margaret Smith, Miss Amy Watts; secretary, Miss Emily Hendricks; treasurer, Miss Sue Biethan.

The club sent a ten dollar food draft to the librarian at Innsbruck in answer to an appeal from him.

First Institute in New Hampshire

New Hampshire held its first library institute on August 15-21 in the State College library at Durham. It was the result of a proposal which Willard P. Lewis, college librarian, made early last spring to the Public Library commission that the college and the commission jointly conduct such a school. His suggestion was welcomed enthusiastically by the commission, which assured the accomplishment of his plan by voting to finance it, thus making a registration fee unnecessary.

Arrangements for the institute were then left to Mr Lewis, representing the college, and to Grace E. Kingsland, secretary of the commission. That the time was ripe for the enterprise was shown by the fact that 28 library workers were present for the week, while 5 others attended one or more lectures on subjects of special interest to them. These came from 27 different libraries, so it is reasonable to expect that their reports of the institute will do much to spread the gospel of training throughout the state. Judging from their enthusiasm during the week and their request that a longer course be given next year, there is no doubt that their comments will be favorable.

Those in charge of the institute were

most fortunate in the instructors they were able to secure. Frances Hobart, Cambridge, Vermont, who has had several years' experience in teaching at the summer school conducted annually by the Connecticut commission and has a wide acquaintance with the needs of small libraries gained from her term of service as secretary of the Vermont library commission, taught the foundation subjects of classification, cataloging, administration, and the principles of book selection. Her method of presenting these technical subjects was admirable and gave to the students a clear understanding of many hitherto bothersome details. Linda M. Clatworthy of the New Hampshire state library, from her experience in western libraries, gave six interesting lectures on how to develop various types of reference work in the small community—a difficult subject which she treated in a broad and constructive way. Children's work was in charge of Alice M. Jordan, children's librarian of the Boston public library, who in her four lectures presented this subject in a manner both fascinating and inspiring to her eager listeners. A sparkling talk on fiction selection by Grace Blanchard, librarian of the Concord public library, added spice to one day's program. The deftness of the fingers of Ruby Tillinghast, from the Peterborough library, was a revelation to many who watched her mending demonstration. Her practical suggestions on how to care for books will result in prolonging their usefulness in libraries represented at the institute. Mr. Lewis, in addition to keeping everything moving smoothly thruout the session, found time to give a valuable lecture on book ordering. A lecture on accessioning was given by Miss Kingsland, who also held individual conferences with students who wished to consult her about specific problems.

For social attractions, there was a lecture on "The library and the community," given by Miss Hobart before the institute and those in attendance

at the Farmers' Week conference which was in process at the time; a picnic one afternoon; and a trip to Dover to visit its public library. There the school was the guest of Miss Caroline Garland, a librarian well known for good work accomplished. Minds were filled to bursting by ideas and devices in use there which help to make that library so effective, while bodies were revived by the delicious refreshments which the library staff served in one of its pleasant rooms.

Massachusetts—The annual institute of the Massachusetts Board of Free public library commissioners was held at Simmons college, July 13-15. As this institute is primarily for the librarians of the small libraries of the state, the program was arranged with their problems in view. About 25 librarians of the small towns had all of their expenses paid by the state. This is an annual custom, and an endeavor is made each year to bring librarians to the institute who have never attended before and from towns where the income is too small for the trustees to pay such expenses. Trustees and librarians from all libraries of the state are welcome, and there was a total attendance of over 200.

The program furnished an address of welcome from Miss June R. Donnelly, director, Simmons College library school; greeting from Charles F. D. Belden, director, Free public library commissioners; from Miss Mary E. Hyde, a talk on cataloging for small libraries with special reference to subject headings; from Miss Clara W. Hunt, Brooklyn public library, a period each day on books for boys and girls, with discussions; from Robert K. Shaw, Worcester public library, a talk on worth while books of the year; from Miss Mary C. Richardson, State normal school, Geneseo, N. Y., a paper on School library methods useful in small libraries.

Miss Angie E. Tracy, Everett public library, gave a demonstration in book-mending. Miss Adeline B. Zach-

ert, superintendent of library extension, Rochester, N. Y. brought to the librarians much inspiration in ways of enlarging the radius of usefulness of the small library. Miss E. H. King, of Springfield city library, told of Picture collections for schools, and Miss Donnelly, of Book service. A round table on Everybody's problems was conducted by Miss E. Louise Jones, of the commission. Miss Hunt and Miss Zachert added much to the discussions. Mrs Ora A. Hinckley, librarian, Hyannis public library, spoke on Know your library. The institute closed with an inspiring address on Literature with a large "L", by Mr MacGregor Jenkins of the *Atlantic Monthly*.

A visit was made to the Athenaeum Press (Ginn and Company), and by courtesy of Mr Ginn the visitors were personally conducted thru the Press and refreshments were served.

Isles of Shoals Meeting

The New England library associations held a fine union meeting at the Isles of Shoals, July 1-3. Oceanic Hotel on Star Island gave exclusive use of the hotel and the island for librarians and those who accompanied them. Many took the opportunity to enjoy the fine ocean air and extended their stay over Sunday and the holiday following.

The first session was conducted by the New Hampshire library association. Rev Alfred Gooding, trustee of the Portsmouth public library, read a paper on "Early Portsmouth libraries."

Miss Caroline H. Garland, librarian of the Dover public library, gave an entertaining account of the Isles of Shoals. It was a comprehensive and detailed description of the locality based upon Miss Garland's own warm regard for the island region.

The Massachusetts library club presented a program on Friday under its president, John G. Moulton. Sarah B. Askew of New Jersey spoke on commission work in that state. Miss

Askew insisted that the work of Americanization should be undertaken with a proper understanding of the sensibilities of those who receive help. Traveling libraries in that state are being made to suit the communities to which they are sent, in an endeavor to meet the needs, as the sections in the north and south of New Jersey differ widely. There are many small industrial towns where the mills are co-operating to provide public libraries.

Adeline B. Zachert of New York presented ways of "Making the library felt in the community." She related her experience in library extension. In Louisville, the work began with the children, who at first came to the library in droves. When the interest abated the library went to the schools, where a visitor was admitted only after repeated requests. In the second year of the work, however, 200 class room libraries were in use. A special room was fitted up for teachers, boxes of books were sent to the playgrounds, and no considerable organization of civic workers was free from a possible library invasion. In speaking of Rochester, Miss Zachert stated that eight years ago the library staff was busying itself with boxes of books in an old library building. Today the system has seven branches, seven sub-branches, 629 classroom libraries, 18 playground libraries, 16 firehouse libraries, 33 factory libraries, 11 libraries at parochial schools and other institutions, 3 hospital libraries and five libraries in department stores. Notwithstanding all the work involved in bringing the message of the printed book to so many people, Miss Zachert looked upon the service as a great joyous adventure.

"Recruiting library workers" was discussed by Mr John Adams Lowe, assistant librarian of the Brooklyn public library. Mr Lowe presented the work as a dignified and useful vocation and one worthy of better salaries, which latter he thinks are slowly, but surely, coming. He said that every small town library should have at least

one assistant and that all small city libraries should have a small training class.

The following officers for the Massachusetts club were elected:

President, Mr John G. Moulton; Vice-presidents, Mr Harold T. Dougherty, Miss E. Kathleen Jones, and Mr Charles R. Green; ex-president, Miss Katharine P. Loring; secretary, Mr Orlando C. Davis; treasurer, Mr George H. Evans; recorder, Mr Frank H. Whitmore; Bulletin committee, Miss Esther C. Johnson, Miss E. Louise Jones and Orlando C. Davis.

On Friday afternoon, the program was presented by the library associations of Maine and Vermont. In an address on "Vermont writers of the present day," Madison C. Bates took refuge in Landor's remark "he who praises a book becomingly is second in merit to the author of it." Mr Bates confined his discussion to the writers from southern Vermont, who live in the valley between Rutland and Bennington. A Wordsworth country, Mr Bates called it, which has, as yet, no Wordsworth or Frost or Robinson but genuine voices are beginning to be heard. The Manchester community club and a local poetry society, are trying to deepen the knowledge of recent literature and stimulate verse production.

Among the southern Vermont writers, Mr Bates mentioned Dr George Holley Gilbert, Edwin Lefevre, Zephine Humphrey, Dorothy Canfield and Miss Sarah N. Cleghorn. He spoke at length of the work and characteristics of these writers, including in his review a number of Miss Cleghorn's poems.

"From Babylon to Maine" was the title used by Miss Theresa C. Stuart, organizer of the Maine library commission. Miss Stuart said that there were traveling libraries in Babylon, just as there are in Maine, but it was particularly about their present day use in Maine that she spoke.

Raymond L. Walkley, librarian of the University of Maine, read a paper

on the topic "Our business." A library comprising bound volumes, newspapers, magazines, music scores and films was compared to a nation of people. Just as there are differences among men, there are similar differences in the purpose of books. The librarian is an executive who represents both, and his task is more difficult because of the fact that he is to control people as well as books.

At an impromptu program arranged for Friday evening, an interesting account of Library War Service in Europe was given by Mr Walter W. Simmons, who spoke from the viewpoint of his experiences in France, Belgium and Germany. Musical recitations and anecdotes were given during the evening.

William D. Goddard, librarian at Pawtucket, read a brief paper on the subject "Discerning the spirits." It was a review of three books which Mr Goddard commended. "The road to En-Dor," by E. H. Jones, an anti-spiritualistic treatment; "The question," by Edward Clodd and "La psychologie inconnnue" (translated in this country under the title "Our hidden forces") by Emile Boirac. In closing his paper Mr Goddard said that "the librarian who furnishes his readers with such psychical and physical facts and reasonings as these by Jones, the lawyer, Clodd, the banker, and Boirac, the scientist, will have nothing to apologize for when they pass onward to the poetical visions of George Eliot, Robert Browning, Rudyard Kipling and Rupert Brooke."

It was voted: That the New England library association, in joint session at the Isle of Shoals on July 2, 1920, invite the American Library Association to hold its 1921 meeting at or near Plymouth during the Tercentenary year.

The Boston special libraries association, conducted the meeting on Saturday, Miss Barbara Duncan presiding. The Enlarged Program was discussed and the expectation expressed that many librarians will try for their quota. Mr Moulton outlined possible methods

of solicitation, referring to rummage sales and sales of antiques as possible ways of securing funds. Mr Carlos C. Houghton, Miss Caroline Webster and Miss E. Kathleen Jones also supported the idea.

Carlos C. Houghton discussed "Library service and the business man" and described the different methods of the librarians of a special collection by contrasting the librarian who buys most inclusively with the one who works most intensively thru such aids as clippings and indexes.

Mr W. Irving Bullard, vice president of the Merchants National Bank of Boston in speaking of the modern bank's use of the modern library said that banking is no longer national. It has become international and a bank is now an economic institution for making researches. The banker today believes in giving his clients information and Mr Bullard felt convinced that bank libraries offer a great opportunity for those who wish to do this research work.

G. W. Lee of Boston pointed out the desirability of making the work done by one organization available for all.

Reference work in the Boston public library was presented by Frank H. Chase, under the caption "Tell your troubles to the public library." Various conferences were held at the close of the meeting.

The poem "Beyond the sunset" was given at the church service on Sunday morning. The two remaining papers arranged for by the Connecticut and Rhode Island associations were omitted and the masque "Pilgrimage," written by Leighton Rollins, was presented at the closing session.

Coming meetings

- Illinois, Springfield, October 12 to 14.
- Indiana, Indianapolis, November 10 to 12.
- Iowa, Des Moines, October 12 to 14.
- Kentucky, Horse Cave, October 6.
- Nebraska, Lincoln, October 20 to 22.
- Wisconsin, Madison, October 13 to 15.

The Kansas library association will

hold its annual meeting at Salina, Kansas, October 25-27.

Two plans of coöperative work which will be considered are:

1. A committee to examine and "rate" all subscription sets offered to libraries and library boards by book agents, all libraries agreeing to obtain the report of the committee when considering the purchase of such sets.

2. A joint list of the most-used children's books in Kansas libraries, so that we may profit by the experience of others. W. H. K.

The Peace Treaty

Book note

Now that the Peace Treaty has become a campaign issue, one of the most enlightening sources of information in regard to the circumstances of its evolution is the recent volume (Harvard University Press) written by Professors Haskins and Lord, two of the experts with the American delegation, will be of special use in the public library. In their words:

The Treaty is by no means a perfect instrument. Those who took part in framing it would be the last to believe it verbally inspired. It is necessarily a peace of compromise and adjustment, and that means that it does not embody completely the desires of any one person or any one country. It was also framed rapidly, not always with sufficient preliminary study, and in some places it bears the marks of haste. But it represents an honest effort to secure a just and durable settlement, and neither the conference in general nor the United States in particular need be ashamed of it. It is easy to criticise in detail, easy to magnify the defects and forget the substantial results achieved, just as it was easy to criticise the Constitution of the United States when it was issued from the Convention of 1787, and to discover therein dangers which history has shown to be imaginary. For one result of the Paris treaties, however, their framers are not responsible, namely the delays in ratification and enforcement. The treaties were drawn for the world of 1919 by men of 1919, on the assumption that what was needed was an early peace as well as a just settlement. The governing commissions and mandates were to begin at once, the plebiscites were to be held as soon as possible, the disarmament of Germany was to be prompt and real, the difficult work of reparation was to begin immediately. None of these expectations has been realized, and the responsibility lies less with the peace conference than with the failure to ratify the treaties and carry out their provisions.

A Tempest in Cincinnati

A difference of opinion of long standing, relating to salaries and standards of service, between members of the staff of the Public library of Cincinnati and the Board of trustees has reached the point of an eruption and the matter is being aired in the public press.

The point of breaking came with the announcement in June of salaries for the coming year. A committee, headed by seven of the branch librarians, whose salaries had been increased \$30 a year, sent a petition to the board referring to the internal conditions of the library, calling attention to the depletion of the staff and asking a conference on the possibility of meeting conditions under the present arrangement. No response was made to the petition and this led to a personal call of members of the committee on the president of the Board of trustees. The interview, as it was reported in the papers, was acrimonious.

The next step was a notice from the Board of trustees calling on those who had been concerned in the interview to apologize for what was termed "unbecoming action." This was met by a second petition from the staff committee requesting permission to appear before the board "to answer any questions regarding the interview, in order to remove the differences which the staff greatly regret exists between the board and the employees." The answer to this was a notice to the members of the committee as follows:

In accordance with the action of the Board of trustees of the Public library of Cincinnati at its meeting Wednesday, September 8, you are hereby suspended as an employee of the library.

The members of the staff that were suspended are as follows:

Pauline J. Fihe, librarian of the Walnut Hills branch, Alma J. L'Hommiedieu, Dayton Street branch, Sophie M. Collman, chief, foreign literature department, Margaret B. Hawley, librarian, Norwood branch, Dey B. Smith, librarian, Cumminsville branch, Caro-

line E. Reinke, chief of useful arts department, and Senta L. Stockton, librarian, North Cincinnati branch.

A letter of inquiry to a member of the committee as to the matters at issue brought the following information:

The trained staff is depleted below the level of effective service called for and demanded by the public. Most of the new help given is high school and university students, who know nothing about the work, but who, working by the hour, receive in most instances more pay than the experienced staff members. The present depleted condition largely increases the work of the regular staff, particularly of those in charge of the branches.

There seems to be great inequality between the salaries received by members of the staff, doing exactly the same work. Increases allowed to the branch librarians, \$30 a year, are too inadequate to affect in any way the cost of living.

A letter to Librarian Hodges, asking for a statement from the Board's point of view, states:

The committee presenting the petition represents a small minority of the employees. The others declined to be represented by this committee because they have entire confidence in the interest taken in their welfare.

The conduct of members of the committee in calling at the office of the president of the board was such as to be judged unbecoming, and this unbecoming conduct was referred to the board, with the result that a resolution was passed requiring apology from the members of the committee. As those who had been in the office of the president of the board refused to make this apology, the board ordered the suspension of seven leaders in the movement. It has been made clear to the library staff that all the increases in salaries which could be provided for up to the end of the calendar year had already been authorized by the board, and they are quite willing to allow further increases when the library fund will permit.

Salaries of branch librarians

Avondale, \$1,150; Camp Washington, \$1,200; Cumminsville, \$1,200; Dayton Street, \$1,200; East End, \$1,150; Hyde Park, \$1,200; North Cincinnati, \$1,250; Norwood, \$1,350; Price Hill, \$1,200; Walnut Hills, \$1,350; Westwood, \$1,200.

In 1906, the income was \$137,000, with a salary list of \$73,385 for 118 employees; books, \$42,000, one branch.

In 1916, the income was \$182,000; salaries, \$121,360, 11 large branches and 222 employees; \$39,000 for purchase of books.

In 1920, the income was \$237,000;

salaries, \$162,406; 11 large branches; 218 employees; \$52,000 for books.

The salary schedule reported in the papers is as follows:

The salaries of most of the branch librarians ranged from \$1,350 to \$900; children's department workers, \$750 to \$1,000; catalogers about \$900; clerks and bookkeepers, \$480 up; chief of the catalog and reference department receives \$2,000, the business manager, \$4,000, chief librarian, \$7,200.

The city newspapers, a number of clubs and friends of the library are deeply concerned over the situation.

Interesting Things in Print

A small pamphlet of 24 pages, postal size, containing lists of "books on business," has been issued by the library of the Kansas state normal school at Emporia.

The Boston public library has issued a List of one act plays in English, 1900-1920, which may be taken for home use from the library. It is compiled by Michael J. Conroy of the Bates Hall reference desk.

The Public library of South Bend, Indiana, has issued a list of Indiana writers represented in its collection and also the books about Indiana by whomever written. The list consists of 28 pages and is arranged alphabetically by subjects.

A compilation of the laws, ordinances and regulations on censorship, minors and other subjects relating to motion pictures has been compiled by Lucius H. Cannon, librarian, municipal reference library of the St. Louis public library. A list of books on the subject by Melitta D. Peschke is given also.

An interesting little pamphlet issued by the Kansas City public library under the title, *Our pilgrim forefathers*, is intended as reading helps for boys and girls. The material is entered under History, plays and pageants, costume, etc. The Mayflower compact, signed November 11, 1920, closes the list.

A third edition of the Five hundred

business books, published by the A. L. A. is now ready for distribution. This list is for distribution to ex-service men free of charge and to librarians at a cost of 20 cents per copy.

A very handsome booklet is that issued by the Carnegie Institute of Pittsburgh of a handbook of that institute. The booklet contains a description of the building and the work of the various departments of the institute, including that of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh. It is handsomely illustrated.

A neatly printed slip enclosed in a library report recently received, expresses an admirable idea. The slip contained the following:

We consider the exchange of publications a sufficient acknowledgment of our own. It is hoped that others may take the same view in these days of extra demands upon time and purse.

THOMAS CRANE PUBLIC LIBRARY,
Quincy, Mass.

One of the most valuable publications issued in recent months is that sent out by the Division of intercourse and education of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, *Publication No. 17*, entitled "American foreign policy." It is made up of extracts and statements of presidents and secretaries of state of the United States and of publicists of the American republics. The 18 chapters cover the subject of foreign policies from the time of Washington's farewell address, September, 1796, to the Declaration of the International policy of the United States, enacted by the sixty-fourth Congress in 1916.

A new edition of *Manual of library economy* by the late James Duff Brown of England, revised and much enlarged by W. C. Berwick-Sayers, has been issued under the imprint of the H. W. Wilson Company, New York. This is the third, and intended for a memorial edition. It was first published in 1903 and revised in 1907, but has been out of print for some time, owing to the conditions in the publishing world.

Mr Berwick-Sayers is a careful and painstaking student of library economy and his name on a work that was originally prepared by the late lamented James Duff Brown insures something of value to all who are interested in librarianship and the administration of libraries.

Frances Jenkins Olcott in her ninth volume of fairy tales for children, *The Wonder Garden*, is just as fresh and fascinating a story teller as when she began nearly nine years ago.

The tales in this last volume are taken from less well-known sources than most of her other stories and so, in addition to the usual sympathetic understanding of how to tell stories to children, a rare gift, she uses the element of novelty in material, a most pleasing combination.

It was a lucky day for children who love stories when Miss Olcott was persuaded to write for them.

In the July 17 edition of the *Detroit Saturday Night*, an upstater gave very frank views of what he saw and met in a recent visit to Detroit. They were not all complimentary. He says of the Detroit public library:

A word of commendation for the service at the downtown public library. Everybody explains to me that the library building is entirely inadequate; that it has been in service for many, many years; that the town has a wonderful new library now about completed and soon to be occupied. Yes, that's quite true. But the thing that impressed me is not the figures on circulation nor the years of occupancy, but the human element of efficient service that is noticeable in the present library. In every town there is a fine library these days, and you nearly always are able to get the books you want with little inconvenience. The courtesy, attention, consideration shown a total stranger by the attendants at the Detroit library indicates a fine standard of personal morale among the employees and a capable directorship and knowledge of human nature by the librarian.

"Presidential elections" is No. 17 of *Brief Reading Lists* issued by the Boston public library. The introductory paragraphs under the headings of nominating and electing a president; candidates; nominating conventions; selection

of party candidates; presidential elections; elections—are terse, clear, and timely. The historical note preceding the list of references under each party heading is especially worthwhile. The leaflet will prove a boon to civic clubs, and persons desiring "nutshell" information.

The new editor of *The Librarian* column of the *Boston Transcript*, Forrest B. Spaulding, wrote for that column recently:

"I do not recall ever having seen a rosy cheeked librarians, writes Dr. W. A. Evans in the *Chicago Tribune*, 'and certainly I have never seen a peachblow complexioned one who had worked long at the trade.' We do not know what libraries Dr. Evans is accustomed to use but we sympathize with him nevertheless, for with us, one of the chief pleasures of using a strange library has always been the rosy cheeked librarians who were so pleasant and willing and accommodating in seeing that we got what we wanted. But we are forced to agree about the peachblow complexioned ones. They do not work long at the trade, much to the despair of chief librarians everywhere. We married one so we know. It isn't library dust that causes their disappearance, as Dr. Evans seems to think.

A book dealing with the relations embodied in the covenant of the League of Nations has been written by one of the librarians of the country who "has come to the front" most admirably in the past 10 years. It is entered as follows:

Hicks, Frederick C.

The New World Order: International Organization; International Law; International Coöperation. N. Y. Doubleday Page & Co., 1920. 500 p.

Chicago Book Fair

The week beginning October 18 will be devoted to another "Book Fair" in Marshall Field's book store. The general lines of last year's exhibit—rare and fine books, manuscripts of interest and beauty, first editions, celebrated books and special lines of special firms, is promised. Poets, publishers and authors will grace the occasion from day to day and an interesting week is foreshadowed in the announcements.

Library Schools

California state library

The library school, for many years conducted by the State library, has been discontinued and the good will and coöperation belonging to it has been transferred to the library school, which is being developed by the University of California. A most interesting article on "California state library school discontinued—and why" by Milton J. Ferguson director of the school, appears in the July number of *News Notes of California Libraries*.

The state library expects to continue its practice of taking younger librarians into its staff for limited periods and to give them information and inspiration which it believes inherent in its service. The plan of holding a half day institute of four or six weeks in several parts of the state, so that younger assistants can take advantage of the courses offered is under consideration.

University of California

State Librarian Milton J. Ferguson, moved by his belief that one state supported institution can meet the present need for library instruction in California and that the State university is the logical place, recommended to his Board of Trustees that the school which has been successfully carried on since 1914 at the State library be discontinued and that the influence and good will of the State library be directed toward the support of the University project. This recommendation was approved by the trustees on May 22, 1920.

As an outward and visible sign of its intention to coöperate in the work of instruction, the State library has offered the services of Mrs May Dexter Henshall, School library organizer, to give the lectures on Library law and on County libraries. Other courses will be given this year by the following librarians: Public library administration, Carlton B. Joeckel of the Berkeley public library; High school libraries,

Helen Price, of the University high school library, Oakland; Medical libraries, Louise Ophüls, of the Lane medical library, San Francisco; Law libraries, Rosamund Parma, of the University of California law library.

The course opened August 13 with an enrollment of 34 students. Twenty of these will complete the work this year and the remaining 14, next year.

Carnegie library school, Pittsburgh

The school opens for its twentieth year September 15, 1920.

Miss Martha Conner, B.A. 1917, M.A. 1920, Pennsylvania state college, and graduate of the Drexel institute library school, class of 1902, has been appointed instructor in the school and will have charge of the courses in classification, bibliography and reference.

Arrangements have been completed for an academic library course to be given by the Carnegie library school and the University of Pittsburgh. The plans provide for a four years' course. The instruction for the first three years in literature, languages, history, science and other academic subjects being given by the university and the fourth year, consisting of one of the regular courses, by the library school. The satisfactory completion of the course will be recognized by a degree conferred by the university.

Miss Elva Smith will give the courses in book selection for children's librarians and Miss Margaret Carnegie will supervise the classes in story-telling. Miss Ruth Paxson has been appointed registrar.

Annie W. Eastman, '09, has been appointed children's librarian of the Jefferson branch library, Cleveland, Ohio.

Emma Lee, '18, has resigned her position as children's librarian in the Carnegie library, Houston, Texas, to take a special course at the Columbia university, 1920-21.

Mabel C. Truc, special, '17, has resigned her position as head of the children's department, Public library, Kansas City, Missouri, to take charge of the children's room, Public library, Detroit, Michigan.

NINA C. BROTHERTON.

Los Angeles

The Los Angeles library school will begin its twenty-ninth year of work September 27. Additions to the faculty include Alice M. Blanchard, formerly supervisor of children's work in the Free public library of Newark, and Lou Johnstone Ward, who will teach reference in place of Helen Gladys Percey, who has resigned to become manager of the Hollywood Community Theater.

The school will continue to stress the history, selection and use of books in libraries thru Helen E. Haines' courses and will also specialize in preparing high school and children's librarians. It is planned to relate the book history courses to the rich collections of the Huntington library now established in San Marino, a suburb of Los Angeles. The more scholarly side of library school training will be developed thru lectures and practice in bibliographical research.

Alice Scheck, '13, has been appointed librarian of the First National Bank, Los Angeles.

Ruth Ann Waring, '14, has been appointed assistant in the Pasadena high-school library.

Cosby Gilstrap, '17, is acting librarian of the Pasadena elementary school library.

Geraldine Graham, '18, has been appointed librarian of Tehama county with headquarters at Red Bluff.

Gladys Julia Knowlton, '18, was married to James R. Irvine on June 22.

Faith Green, '19, has been appointed assistant in the Pasadena public library.

Margaret Richter, '19, has been appointed cataloger in the Cornell University library.

MARION HORTON,
Principal.

New York public library

Plans for the advanced courses for 1920-21 include changes designed to make those courses highly valuable to workers who have enjoyed some years of field experience since their library school days. The course in Administration, for example, will consist of a series of round tables on library management in which actual problems as suggested by librarians will be discussed under the guidance of qualified leaders. There will be a course in special library methods, in which a series of lectures on special libraries and the special library movement will

be supplemented by visits, demonstrations and problem work relating to the collection and care of special library material. Book selection will be treated in two series of lectures, in one of which special problems and the literature of particular subjects will be discussed by library workers, and in the other of which, prominent speakers will present some of the literature which has influenced national, social and industrial policy in this and other countries. The course entitled "Art and the Book" will be made up of lectures by specialists on such topics as the history of printing, early printed books, collectors and collecting, typography, illustration and fine bindings, together with opportunities for visits to the collections, galleries and book auctions of New York City. In addition to the above there are announced courses in cataloging, children's work and literature, current events, documents, the library and the community, reference work and school library methods, with possible elections also of bibliographical problems, practical work, and theses. Subject to faculty approval, credit may also be allowed for certain courses pursued in the year at other institutions in New York City, provided those courses bear directly upon the specialization sought by the student.

The advanced courses are available to persons who have received certificates at library schools which hold membership in the Association of American Library Schools. A circular giving information will be sent upon request.

MARION HORTON.

New York state library

Thirty-five students were registered for the school year beginning September 15.

Margaret S. Williams, B. L. S., Illinois, joined the faculty on September 1. Miss Williams was for two years cataloger in the University of Illinois library, taught in the summer library school at the Colorado Agricultural

college in 1918, and for several years was instructor in the course offered as an elective to sophomores and freshmen in the University of Illinois. Miss Williams will conduct the Junior course in Selection of books, the Senior and Junior library seminars, and will share the work of the Junior courses in bibliography and reference with Miss Brewster and Mr Tolman.

Mr Wyer will retain the course in subject bibliography which he took over last spring.

F. L. Tolman will again conduct the elementary reference course; Elizabeth M. Smith the course in book binding; G. G. Champlin the course in printing, and Anna G. Hall the course in loan work.

Jennie D. Fellows will take charge of the advanced classification course, Mary E. Hyde of shelf work and Sabra W. Vought of the school libraries course.

A number of changes have been made in the curriculum both as to subjects and arrangements.

While these changes are experimental and may not prove permanently practicable, they are introduced with the idea of rounding out the junior course, of making it more complete in itself and of providing greater opportunity in the senior year for more advanced and specialized study.

J. I. WYER, JR.

Pratt institute

The school is glad to report that a very gratifying increase of applications during the summer have brought the membership of the class of 1921 not only up to but slightly beyond our usual limit of 25, but in view of last year's experience we decided to admit a few additional students, should more than 25 qualify, in order to insure a full class.

As at present constituted, the class is preponderantly Western. There are as many (3) from Iowa as from New York, 11 in all are from the Mississippi Valley (Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Kansas, Nebraska, Mis-

souri, Oklahoma) and 2 from the Northwest, Idaho and Oregon. There are three New Englanders (Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont), three Southerners (Georgia, Alabama and Texas), and one from Pennsylvania. An Englishwoman, a Canadian, a Norwegian and a Filipino complete the geographical diversity.

The school decided in the spring to admit college graduates without examination and eight students entered on this basis, two of whom hold Masters' degrees. The Universities of Kansas, Nebraska, Oregon, and the Philippines are represented by graduates, also Adelphi college, Queen's university, Ontario, Simpson college and the Diocesan college of Calcutta, while Smith college, Boston university, Middlebury college, Northwestern university, Ohio university are represented by undergraduate students.

As usual the great majority of the students have had library experience. Seventeen are on leave of absence or have given up positions to take the course, while five others have had from two to six months' practical library work. Experience gained in public, high school, normal school, and college libraries will enliven discussions in and out of class.

JOSEPHINE ADAMS RATHBONE

Riverside, California

There was no summer school for library workers in 1920, altho there were more than 30 applicants for the work. It is probable that the summer school program will be resumed in 1921.

The winter school covering a course of eight or ten weeks will begin January 4, 1921.

Elma C. Schowalter, '16, died at Springville, California, June 7, 1920.

Mrs Rose Settles, '20, was married June 3, to Wm. Weeks.

Ruth Kelsey, '19, was married July 17 to Fred C. Diel.

Virginia Dearborn, '14, was married July 16 to A. J. Mertzke. Their home will be in Madison, Wisconsin.

Edris Powlison, '16, became assistant librarian at Oahu college, Hawaii, September 1.

Simmons college

The library school opened on September 20, with an increased enrollment, especially in the freshman class.

This year the time will be divided into three terms, ending approximately at Christmas, Easter, and June. This division makes it possible to send the senior class out for a solid two weeks of practical work in the spring, in addition to the fortnight required of them in the vacation just past.

Many of these seniors have worked longer this summer than the required time, which always results in much more spirited class work, and we expect the same impetus to be given by the spring experience.

The new curriculum also throws the library science courses more heavily into the fourth year, thus emphasizing even more strongly the fundamental conception of the School that the academic courses are the basis upon which the professional work must be built.

An introductory course is given to the freshmen on the library as an aid in their college life and on librarianship as a career.

The placement service used to suppose that if the graduating class could be settled in positions by Commencement it would insure a restful summer, but it has decided, after trying it, that it is far harder work running an employment service without a reserve of good people to draw on.

Miss Margaret Wood, a Simmons graduate of 1917, has joined the instructing staff of the Library school, with special duties as reviser and assistant in the cataloging courses.

The enrollment of the summer classes totalled 39. Those who attended during the first three weeks had the advantage, in addition to the regular courses, of the Conference conducted at the college, July 13-15, by the Division of public libraries of the Department of education of Massachusetts. Those who took the children's course the last three weeks, found the talks of Miss Zachert and Miss Hunt an

especially delightful preparation for Miss Hazeltine's course, and everyone enjoyed Mr Jenkins' "Literature with a large 'L'."

The experiment of making Miss Hyde's cataloging course so strongly one on subject headings proved very successful.

JUNE R. DONNELLY,
Director.

Syracuse university

The following are appointments to the Library school faculty for the coming year:

Miss Elisabeth G. Thorne, vice-director; Miss Stella Tabor Doane, graduate of the Carnegie library school and with six years' teaching experience in Drexel Institute library school, instructor of cataloging and classification; Miss Edna Stowe Stewart, graduate of Drexel Institute library school, instructor in reference and bibliography.

The following appointments were made from the class graduated in June:

Zoe M. Dexter, assistant, Clark University library, Worcester, Mass.

Marian Hunting, assistant, New York public library.

Frances Adeltha Kerns, assistant, Children's department, Cleveland public library.

Evalina Martin, assistant, New York State college of forestry library, Syracuse, N. Y.

Julia Martin, assistant, Syracuse University library.

Jean E. Minckler, assistant, Public library, Montclair, N. J.

Marjorie Anita Obenauer, assistant, Brooklyn public library.

Elsie Frances Pack, librarian, Birchard library, Fremont, Ohio.

Rosa M. Wensinger, assistant, Cleveland public library.

J. Louisa Yates, children's librarian, Public library, Decatur, Ill.

Summer schools**University of Illinois**

The tenth annual summer session of the Illinois library school opened June 21. The instruction was given principally by members of the regular faculty, but in addition, lectures were given by Miss Grace Shellenberger of Davenport, Iowa, and Anna May Price, Illinois library commission,

while many of the general university lectures and exercises were regularly attended by most of the library school students. The weather was unusually pleasant.

The total registration was 42, 18 students being registered in the regular courses of the library school and 24 in the six weeks course. There were seven students from other departments of the university for a single library subject, most of whom were teacher-librarians. Thirty-nine of the students were already in library work from all types of libraries. During the 10 years in which summer courses have been offered in Urbana, a total of 271 students have been enrolled, of whom 181 have registered from Illinois libraries. Twenty-five of the 42 students this year were from Illinois. For the second summer during the 10 years, courses of the regular library school curriculum were offered. Seventeen met the requirements of the library school and five of these were there for their second session. By completing the work of these two summer sessions, they will have all the library work of the first semester to their credit and could finish the junior year's work of any academic year, by coming to Urbana for the second semester's work.

High-school graduation was required for the entrance to the six weeks courses. In addition to the technical work, special lectures in book selection were given by members of the faculty of the university.

Indiana

The 1920 summer school for librarians, the twentieth conducted by the Public Library commission of Indiana, was unusually successful. The attendance was the largest, a class of 38, all of whom were in public library work.

Owing to limited facilities, the commission was unable to admit to the courses six others already employed in Indiana libraries, who desired to take the work. This has been the situation for several years, so the commission

does not feel the force of suggestion that the employment provision be waived in admitting students to the summer course.

The sessions were held at Butler college, Indianapolis, the women's dormitory being used for the library students exclusively. The usual courses were given by the commission staff, Misses Elizabeth C. Ronan, Mayme C. Snipes and Jane R. G. Marshall, and the secretary, William J. Hamilton. A course of 10 lectures in children's work was given by Miss Carrie E. Scott, of the Indianapolis public library, and one of eight lectures in book selection by Miss Anna G. Birge, until recently with the Library school of the University of Wisconsin.

There were 13 special speakers in addition, among whom were Miss Sarah C. N. Bogle, assistant secretary of the A. L. A., Amos W. Butler, secretary, Board of state charities, Miss Jennie M. Flexner, Louisville public library, President T. C. Howe, Butler college, Ethel McCollough, librarian of Evansville and Margaret Wade, president of the Indiana library association.

An interesting feature of the summer was a general reunion on July 22 when a number of members of former classes were present and joined the class of 1920 in a round table discussion of general administration problems. Fifteen members of former classes were present. Visits were made to the library in the vicinity as well as to the bookstores and binderies.

Iowa

The nineteenth annual session of the Iowa summer school for library training closed at the State university of Iowa on July 27. Of the 29 students enrolled, 26 took the full course and three took only the courses in classification, cataloging and children's literature. In addition to the 23 students from Iowa libraries, there were two from South Dakota, and one each from Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota and Nebraska.

Miss Callie M. Wieder, librarian of

the Marshalltown public library, gave the instruction in classification and cataloging. Miss Alice K. Hatch, children's librarian of the Davenport public library, gave the course in children's literature, Miss Mae C. Anders acted as reviser and instructor in minor subjects, Miss Ora King served as secretary and reviser. Miss Julia A. Robinson, secretary of the Iowa library commission gave a series of lectures on library administration. The courses in reference and book selection were given by the director.

Special lectures were given before the school by the following:

Dr B. F. Shambaugh, State historical society of Iowa; Dr Bird T. Baldwin, Child Welfare research station of Iowa; Mrs Eva Page, Traveling libraries of Iowa; Miss Harriet Wood, School libraries.

A special feature of this year's session was the annual conference for library workers, which was held at the University during the second week of the session.

A large number of librarians of the state attended the conference and students and visitors alike found the sessions most helpful and inspiring.

BLANCHE V. WATTS,
Director.

Other schools

The library school course offered by the Department of Education of Ontario, opened in Toronto, September 8, with an enrollment of 41.

The Brooklyn public library offers three courses in library economy, preparatory to its graded service. They began October 1, 1920.

The Brooklyn public library will be glad to furnish detailed information regarding these courses to those who are interested.

A summer vacation school for librarians of small systems was held at the University of Bristol, England, August 30, September 11. The staff of lecturers included Dr E. A. Baker, director, W. C. Berwick Sayers, W. R. B.

Prideaux and Mr R. Wright. The course comprised of 25 lectures, illustrated by demonstrations, visits to libraries, binderies, etc. The subjects covered were book selection, classification, cataloging, planning work, etc., in rural libraries.

A brief emergency course of training intended for those who would otherwise enter the service of the St. Louis public library untrained, was given from September 14 to September 25. The purpose of the course was announced in advance thru the public press, both by paid advertisements and reading-notices; and also on the bulletin boards of the library and its branches. From about 30 responses, mostly in person, but a few by telephone, 16 candidates were selected, three of whom dropped out at the end of the first day. The remainder proved to be excellent material and some of them have expressed their intention of taking the full library school course next year.

Instruction was given by lectures and practical work in the following subjects, problems being given with each lecture:

- 1) Dewey classification and on the arrangement of books on the shelves.
 - 2) Reference books, such as dictionaries, encyclopedias, and periodical indexes.
 - 3) The use of the card catalog and its arrangement.
 - 4) The care of books and shelves.
- Library penmanship was also taught.

The time was about equally divided between school work and practical training in the various departments where there were vacancies to be filled.

The result of this experiment is most encouraging, both in its effect on the present quality of what may be called the "emergency staff," but also in directing the attention of competent persons who would otherwise not have considered it, to the advantages of library work and the desirability of a full library-school course in preparation for it. If necessary, the course will be repeated in February next.

ARTHUR E. BOSTWICK,
Director.

Department of School Libraries

At A. L. A. Meeting

The School libraries section of the A. L. A. met on the afternoon of June 2, Miss Harriet Wood presiding.

The tone of the meeting was informal. Discussion of all practical school library problems was the keynote of the afternoon's session. Miss May Ingles, librarian of the High-school of Commerce, Omaha, talked on the Teaching of students the use of books and library tools. Willis H. Kerr, librarian of the State normal school, Emporia, Kan., discussed briefly the question of Supervised study in its relation to the school library. Miss Margaret Ely, librarian of the Lake View high school branch of the Chicago public library, described helpful materials recently added to her collection.

Miss Ingles' talk was most practical and started vigorous discussion at once. An abstract follows:

"The right use of a school library will contribute more to the training of a child in high ideals, fine tastes and good habits, than any other agency. The librarian who is awake to her possibilities will create the feeling that the library is the place to come for material on any subject wanted. Free use of the library and attendance without restriction will enable the pupil to become acquainted with its resources. The ability to acquire facts is of far more importance than the fact itself. Few reserves and no marked places make it possible for the pupil to work and think. Few rules and plenty of lists and guides will simplify the use of the library. Instruction in the class room is of prime importance. At least one lecture should be given and if possible, a course, graded throughout the four years, should be systematically taught. The librarian should know the courses of study, visit classes and co-operate with the teacher in the assembling of material. Home reading may be encouraged by giving talks on books

in library or class room, by consulting the likes and dislikes of the pupils, by reading a 'starter,' by choosing a hero each month for the history class, and by choosing good illustrated editions. Pictures and clippings and plenty of material, well advertised, will bring the individual pupil in personal contact with the librarian, who will constantly teach the individual pupil how to cull the material he desires. Coöperation with every department of the school in the preparation of the pupil in his self-education is best accomplished through careful instruction in the use of library books and tools."

Miss Ingles' talk contained many suggestions which were commented upon, so that the meeting rapidly became most fruitful.

Mr Kerr then talked about the question of supervised study. He spoke about the tendency of the teaching body to carry off to the individual class room groups of books which then become dead as far as the library is concerned. He urged the necessity of keeping the books in the library and making the librarian responsible for the proper use of the books, with the coöperation of the individual teacher.

Miss Ely told of the slides, map and postal card collections at the Lake View high school library, and her card indexes to each of the collections. The slides are arranged according to series name and then numerically and are cataloged under series name and under subject. Maps are mounted on dark green binding linen, arranged according to title, and cataloged under subject. Postal cards are arranged according to broad subject and cataloged under smaller subjects. She described the method used in her library in the care and preservation of pictures and pamphlets. Pictures are classified under definite subject and cataloged under subject with many cross references. *The Mentor* and *National Geographic*

magazines are left intact and cataloged as pictures, giving the exact page on which the picture may be found. Pamphlets are arranged according to author and cataloged under subject, author and title. Back numbers of magazines are not bound, but are kept in single numbers and preserved by covering them with heavy brown paper. Library instruction at the Lake View high school has grown from 6 lessons to a full semester course for freshman A pupils and one lecture to beginning freshmen.

Miss Ely's talk was entirely practical and was interspersed with questions and answers, so that the informal tone was maintained thruout.

Miss Sylvia Oakley, Deposit department of The Chicago public library, in answer to Mr Kerr stated at some length that she had found that books loaned to the teachers for class room proved most useful. She added that the selection was supervised by the librarian.

Miss Mulheron, supervisor of school libraries, Portland, Ore., spoke about the enthusiasm and spirit shown in the Portland high schools, where much of the routine work is managed at the Main library.

Miss Wood moved that Miss Martha Pritchard, the elected chairman for the present year, be reelected for the coming year, because of her efficient service this year and her inability to attend the conference. The motion was unanimously carried and the meeting was adjourned.

An investigation recently made under the auspices of the North Central Association of colleges and secondary schools showed that the four books of value in training for citizenship most popular among high school pupils were Hale's "The man without a country," Riis's "Making an American," Gauss' "Democracy today," and Antin's "The promised land." The complete report of the investigation is given in the *School Review* for April.

School Library Meeting

The library section of the Missouri teachers' association has prepared a program for its meeting, November 11, as follows:

On the general topic: Children's reading and elementary school libraries there will be a paper by Miss Mary Armstrong Ayres, head, children's department, Public library, Kansas City. The discussion will be led by I. R. Bundy, secretary, State library commission, Jefferson City.

On the general topic: High-school libraries there will be a paper on The small high-school library, by C. E. Wells, librarian, Northwest Missouri state teachers' college, Maryville.

The discussion will be led by Miss Adelene J. Pratt, librarian, Manual training high-school, Kansas City. Jesse Cunningham, librarian of Public library, St. Joseph, is chairman.

A Library Textbook

Another encouraging sign in the effort to acquaint young people with the real use of books appears in a new publication issued by the University of Illinois. This is "A guide to the use of libraries; a manual for students in the University of Illinois," by Margaret Hutchins, Alice S. Johnson, and Margaret S. Williams, reference librarians in the library and lecturers in the library school of the University of Illinois. not for
In clc

The book forms a text upon which is based an elective course which was started in 1898 by Katharine L. Sharp, formerly librarian and director of the Illinois library school. This course is accepted for credit in the undergraduate colleges of the University.

The purpose of the work, as stated in the preface, "is to give to the students early in their college career some knowledge of the resources of the library and a familiarity of assignments in other studies," and is intended to free the students from much note-taking. It covers for the college and university library the same general char-

acteristics of similar manuals intended for grade and high school libraries.

While it is written especially for the students of the University of Illinois and includes a descriptive chapter on that library, the book as a whole will serve as an excellent text for any other large college or university.

Book Lists

A book list for children is published during the nine school months, September thru May, in the *Junior Red Cross News*, the official publication of the Junior department of the American Red Cross. This list is compiled each month by Louise Franklin Bache, a graduate of the Carnegie library school for children's librarians, Pittsburgh, and special student at Pratt institute library school. Miss Bache was for some time children's librarian in the Brooklyn public library, and head of the children's department, Rosenberg library, Galveston, Texas.

The book list will be prepared on a variety of subjects, such as Stories of boys and girls in foreign lands, Stories and plays for the Pilgrim Tercentenary, Heroes and heroines of American history. It is planned to make these lists helpful to teachers and pupils alike thruout the country. The material in the *Junior Red Cross News* as well as the pictures, are suitable for children from the grammar grades thru high school. Up to and including the issue for December, 1920, the *News* will be distributed as in the past, free to all schools which are Junior Red Cross auxiliaries, libraries, hospitals, etc. Beginning with the issue of January, 1920, the *News* will be put on a straight subscription basis.

A set of Booklists for grades three to eight, prepared for coöperative work between the Public library and the public schools of Youngstown, Ohio, will be mailed, free, to any librarians asking for it.

The Bureau of Education in the Home Education division has started

an "After war reading-course." Five lines of reading are represented:

First, "Heroes of American democracy," giving biographies that picture men in their setting of time and place, revealing what yesterday means for today. Two, "Lives of men who fought for democracy," with sword and pen. Three, "The call of blue waters," a course on seamanship, navigations and marine engineering for the men in the service and the merchant marine. Four, "Iron and steel course," for the manufacture of iron and steel, including the blast furnace, metallurgy of steel and its various manipulation. Five, "Shipbuilding," shipyard, steel ships, preparation of framework and plates, building the hull, wooden ships and shipfitting. Six, Machine-shop work.

The outline which has been issued was edited by Joseph L. Wheeler, librarian of Public library, Youngstown, Ohio. A certificate is to be given by the United States Bureau of Education to those completing a certain number of books in any one of these courses. The technical course should be specially interesting in many cities as an incentive to the thousands of active men to read along the lines of their work.

It is hoped that the Bureau will develop this work more extensively at an early date. It is a step towards coöperative lists which has been long expected by those who want them.

A report of the growth of library service in the schools of St. Paul, Minn., in the past four years shows a growth of 467 per cent. The collections grew as follows: In 1915, 12,680v., in 1919, 71,545v. Circulation in 1915, 71,490v.; in 1919, 334,058v.

The Board of Education of Des Moines plans to develop its system of school libraries. At the present time there are libraries in three of the high schools, with full time librarians and about 20 deposit stations. An attempt will be made to coördinate the work of the various libraries under direction of Miss Vera M. Dickson.

News from the Field

East

Louise Delano, Simmons '15, has joined the staff of the Massachusetts state library.

Inez Bowler, Simmons '18, has joined the cataloging staff of the University of Maine library at Orono, Maine.

H. Beatrice Brown, Simmons '18, has been appointed on the Radcliff College library staff as cataloger.

Anna Sweetser, Simmons '18, has been appointed assistant at the Clark University library, Worcester.

Dorothy Hopkins, Simmons '11, has been appointed in the Abbot Academy library, Andover, Massachusetts.

Eleanor Horne, Simmons '17, resigned the librarianship of the Milton public library on account of ill health.

Ella M. Coats, Simmons '15, was married June 29 to Arthur L. Greeley, and will live in Schenectady, N. Y.

Mildred Page, Simmons '14, resigned her position at McLean hospital to become an assistant in the Williams College library.

Olive Sawin, Simmons '18, was married June 28 to Osgood R. Flagg, and will live at Framingham Centre, Massachusetts.

Jeanne Butterworth, Simmons '19, has been promoted to be head of the children's department of the New Haven public library.

Katharine Middleton, Simmons '15, has resigned from the Public affairs information service to join the staff of the State agricultural college, Amherst, Mass.

Helen D. Hertell, a graduate of Vassar college and for the past two years assistant librarian at the Public library, Lewiston, Maine, has been appointed assistant librarian at the College of business administration, Boston university.

The report of the Phoebe Griffin Noyes library, Old Lyme, Connecticut,

records a year of steady growth. An increase in circulation, reading room attendance and in the reference work is noted. Practically all the children above the primary grades are users of the library. A reference course was given to the senior class in conclusion.

Anne Stokeley Pratt, A. B., Bryn Mawr, 1906, has resigned from the University of California library to accept a position as assistant reference librarian in the Yale University library. Miss Pratt will have the rank of assistant professor in Yale university, and begin her new duties there, the middle of September.

Guy E. Marion has completed his war work in New York City with the Community motion picture bureau, the agency which supplied the "movies" at home and abroad, during the late war, under the direction of the Y. M. C. A. Mr Marion built up a library of motion picture information for the large staff of the bureau and compiled an enormous card index, of over 300,000 entries, covering all the pictures released in America since 1915. He now returns to his own professional work of organizing special libraries. Mr Marion will soon resume his old address at 27 State St., Boston.

Central Atlantic

Evelyn Wallis, Simmons '19, has been appointed an assistant in the Public library, Olean, New York.

Elizabeth Gillies, Simmons '18, has been made librarian of the Public library, Edgewater, New Jersey.

Ella Ritchie, Simmons '10, has returned to her home city, Endicott, New York, and is a member of its Public library staff.

Edward D. Greenman, N. Y. S. '09, has been appointed vice-director of the New York State bureau of municipal information, Albany.

Charlotte Ford, Simmons '18, has been appointed head of the filing department of the Goldwyn Picture Corporation in New York.

Helen Russell, Simmons '16, has resigned from the Jubilee branch, Buffalo, to become the librarian of the State normal school, Geneseo, New York.

Carlos C. Houghton has severed his connection with the A. L. A. to become chief of the information and library department of Poor's Publishing Company.

Marion Moshier, Simmons '19, has resigned from the New York public library to become children's librarian in the Public library of Endicott, New York.

Emma Williamson, Simmons '19, has resigned from the Utica public library to take charge of the Heermance memorial library, Coxsackie, New York.

Dorothy L. Hawkins, N. Y. S. '17-'18, resigned her position with the Wilmington Institute free library to become assistant librarian at Delaware college.

Edith Wells, of the Hospital department, A. L. A. Library War Service, has resigned to accept a secretarial position with the Women's municipal league of New York City.

The library of Princeton university has received the Strong collection relating to economic aspects of the war. It was presented by Benjamin Strong Jr., governor of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

The school of foreign service of Georgetown university, Washington, D. C., has added to its equipment a splendid library room. A library of foreign trade and allied subjects is well under way.

Elizabeth G. Thorne for many years a well known successful librarian in New York state and for several years a member of the teaching faculty of the Syracuse library school has been appointed vice-director of the library school and assistant librarian of the Syracuse University library.

The annual report of the Public library of Iliion, New York, records a circulation for home use of 68,685v. Total number of registered borrowers,

5,678; books on the shelves, 18,117. Collections of books 25 to 50 volumes have been placed in various deposit stations. Several interesting exhibits of pictures and war trophies were held.

Joy E. Morgan who has been connected with the A. L. A. Library War Service, has accepted the editorship of the publications of the National Education Association, including its *Bulletin*.

The opportunity and outlook are unusually attractive. The headquarters are in the N. E. A. building at 1201 Sixteenth street, N. W., Washington. Mr Morgan began his work the middle of September.

The report of increases for the staff of the New York public library as given in the New York public library staff association *Bulletin*, gives the following:

The present scheme of increases allows a minimum of \$200 a year with 22 per cent on salaries up to \$1,500, 20 per cent on salaries from \$1,500 to \$2,500 and \$500 flat increases on salaries from \$2,500 to \$7,500. This increase is based upon the city schedule, not taking into account the additional amount appropriated by the trustees at the beginning of the year. The increase becomes effective August 20 and will probably be given, retroactively, on the September payroll.

The Public library of Buffalo, New York, records for 1919 the following statistics: number of bound volumes, 393,871; circulation for 1919, 1,799,528; registration, 100,575; additional school registration, 40,792; total resources, \$182,577; salaries, \$98,454.

There was a marked increase in circulation, the past year being the busiest in the history of the Buffalo library.

The problem now is to give efficient service to the patrons coming to the library, which heretofore has been supplemented by the question of getting patrons to visit the library. This, of course, is owing to the lack of trained workers the country over. With the opening of a library school at the University of Buffalo and a radical increase in salaries, the outlook

is better for this year. Traveling libraries have been placed in additional industrial plants and the number of class room libraries of the public schools have been increased, one branch being placed in more spacious quarters. There has been better co-operation with the Grosvenor library, the reference library of Buffalo.

Central

Elise Carroll, Simmons '20, has been made librarian of the Henry Ford hospital library, at Detroit, Michigan.

L. Ruth French, Simmons '08, has been made librarian of the Public library, Albion, Michigan.

Mildred Wadsworth, Simmons '18, has joined the staff of the Grinnell College library, Grinnell, Iowa.

Rachel M. Ogle, N. Y. S. '15-'16, has been appointed librarian of Franklin College library, Franklin, Ind.

C. H. Compton has joined the Chicago staff at A. L. A. headquarters in charge of publicity.

The Thomas Crane public library, Quincy, Mass., has received a bequest of \$93,959, by the will of the late Alfred Crane.

Lura C. Hutchinson has been appointed librarian of the Public library, Minneapolis, to succeed Miriam Day, who resigned.

Miss Florence Hulings has become librarian of the McClymonds library, Massillon, Ohio. Miss Hulings was formerly librarian at Van Wert.

Clara Clark, Simmons '18, has resigned from the Norfolk House Center library in Roxbury, Massachusetts, to become cataloger at Ohio Wesleyan college, Delaware.

Herbert S. Hirshberg, librarian of the Public library of Toledo, Ohio, has found it necessary to sojourn for some time in Saranac, New York, on account of ill health.

C. B. Lester, for 10 years a member of the staff of the Legislative reference library, Wisconsin, has been elected secretary of the Wisconsin free

library commission, to succeed Mr Dudgeon.

J. Howard Dice, B. L. S., N. Y. S., '13, resigned his position as assistant to the director of libraries for the War department to accept the librarianship of the University of Pittsburgh.

Maude E. Allen, N. Y. S. '15-'16, reference librarian, Detroit board of education, will give part of her time as instructor in the training class of the Detroit public library.

Louise Grace has resigned as librarian of the Butzel branch of the Detroit public library to become research librarian of the William N. Albee Co., a sales promotion advertising agency in Detroit.

Matthew S. Dudgeon, since 1908 secretary of the Wisconsin free library commission, has been appointed librarian of the Public library of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, to succeed the late Charles E. McLenagan.

Alfred H. P. Sayers, N. Y. P. L. '18-19, has resigned his position in the reference department of the Chicago public library, and has accepted the position as senior assistant in the Newberry library, Chicago.

Miriam M. Davis, for 30 years reference librarian of the Minneapolis public library, was married August 14 to Dr James Wallace, head of the department of Religious education, McAlister college, St. Paul.

Miss Mary E. Hazeltine, preceptor of the Wisconsin library school, has returned to her duties there, after a year's leave of absence on account of ill health. Miss Hazeltine is greatly improved and expects to carry her usual duties thruout the year.

Virginia Hollingsworth, first assistant cataloger for the past seven years, has been promoted to head of the catalog department of the Public library, Dayton, Ohio. Miss Carrie Bench succeeds Miss Hollingsworth as first assistant.

Vera M. Dixon has resigned as acting librarian at Iowa State college,

Ames, Iowa, to accept a position as director of school libraries in Des Moines, Iowa. Gladys Rush, Pratt '14, has been appointed acting librarian at Iowa State college.

Miss Eliza R. Pendry, for a number of years librarian of the Englewood high school branch of the Chicago public library, has a year's leave of absence, which she will spend at the University of Illinois library school, with the expectation of receiving her B.L.S. next June.

Miss Helen Pearson, who was active in hospital library work under the National League for Women's Service during the period of the war and a student at the summer school for hospital librarians at Simmons college, will have charge, under the direction of the Dayton public library, of the hospital library service at the Soldiers Home and other hospitals in Dayton, Ohio.

The report of the Public library of Saginaw, Michigan, records a circulation of 92,670v. What is called the most important event of the history of the library was the consolidation of the celebrated Hoyt reference library with the Public library of the city. The Hoyt was an endowed library, used only for reading and reference, and for a long time it was impossible to overcome the legal difficulties that prevented the consolidation of the two libraries. This has been finally overcome. The library moved in June and in spite of all confusion the library circulated more books in June and July than ever before for corresponding months.

Miss Agnes Van Valkenburg, well known in library circles, died during the summer at her home in Hillsdale, Mich., after a long illness.

Miss Van Valkenburg was for 17 years head of the cataloging department of the Milwaukee public library. Nine years ago she went to the library school of the New York public library, where she remained five years as a member of the faculty. She was for some two years a member of the staff

of the H. W. Wilson Company of White Plains, New York. From there she went to Bay City, Michigan, where she remained as head of the Public library, until failing health compelled her to resign last September. Miss Van Valkenburg was well and favorably known in Wisconsin library circles and was a prominent member of the American Library Association. She served on a number of its committees and was always much interested in the cataloging sections.

Her keen sense of humor, quick wit and fund of stories made her a social favorite among her many friends.

The forty-eighth annual report of the Chicago public library notes a home circulation of books of 7,509,267v., of which 827,353v. were taken from the central library, 4,082,015 volumes from the 44 branches, and 332,638 from six high school libraries. There are now 1,565 library agencies in the city, including 1,336 school room deposits, 49 business house libraries, 70 traveling libraries and 23 delivery stations besides the branches. Registered borrowers number 362,055. The gain in circulation for the year was six per cent for the entire system and nine per cent in the branches. The continued scarcity of efficient library assistants and the steady depletion of the staff thru superior attractions offered in the business world, together with the heavy increase in the cost of all supplies, made it impossible to undertake any extension of the work. The Music room, now containing over 12,000v. of music scores for circulation, continues to be a favorite resort of the public. The total number of volumes now in the library is 1,011,963. Appended to the report is a group of statistical tables prepared by the Branch department analyzing the circulation in branches from several standpoints and revealing the remarkable intensive work accomplished in many branches operating with meager resources. Thus, the "turnover," or ratio of circulation to total book stock ranges from six, in the quiet residential pre-

cincts of Morgan Park, to 20 and 22 in the congested districts where the Public library is practically the only recreational agency open to all the people.

South

Helen Griffith, Valley City, North Dakota, has been appointed librarian of Clark library, Marietta, Georgia.

Mrs Priscilla P. Burd has joined the staff of the Kentucky library commission in the interests of the traveling library work.

Earl G. Swem, for some time assistant librarian in Virginia state library, has become librarian of William and Mary college, Virginia.

A bill has been introduced into the legislature of Georgia for an amendment to the state constitution authorizing libraries to be subject to a county tax.

Elizabeth Sampson, Simmons '18, for the past two years a member of the Simmons College library school staff, has been appointed assistant librarian at the North Carolina college for women at Greensboro.

The bill to organize a library commission for the state of Louisiana was passed by both houses of the legislature of that state during the summer. The bill carries no appropriation, but the librarians are rejoicing at the entering wedge, looking towards state supervision of libraries in Louisiana.

In a Fourth of July parade in Fitzgerald, Georgia, was a library float which received second prize. The float represented "Books for everybody," with the laboring man, the little child, the school boy, the young woman, as patrons, and Miss Smith, librarian, handling reference books to remind the public of this side of the work. A striking feature was a trailer representing the rural extension work with a county superintendent and a traveling library case of books.

The annual report of the Public library of Sedalia, Missouri, shows 4,501 active cards; circulation, 103,649v., of

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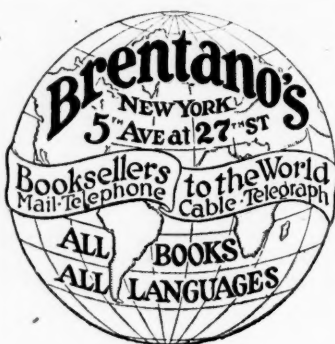
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which 16,218v. were issued from school stations. In addition, an unusual amount of work was done in the reference room. Number of volumes on the shelves, 21,597.

The work in the children's department has been unusually active and has brought immediate response. There are nine stations, two having been established during the year and all doing satisfactory work.

Receipts for the year, \$10,643. Expenses—books, \$987, periodicals, \$262, salaries, \$2,667; balance on hand, \$4,146.

The annual report of the Public library of Louisville, Kentucky, shows the largest extension of its service for several years. Circulation for home use was 1,109,253v., from 282 collections in the city and 142 collections in Jefferson county. The number of borrowers, 55,058, represents 23 per cent of the population of Louisville. The reference work and the questions in the newspapers and civic rooms were the heaviest in the history of the library. Number of volumes on the shelves, 223,962.

The income of the library was \$136,672.74; expenditures, \$136,672.09. The exceedingly great increase in the cost of maintenance and the provision made for better salaries leave the library finally in temporary "straitened circumstances." A committee has been appointed to confer with the city authorities, looking to some arrangement which will relieve the stress. An increase of \$74,704 seems almost imperative. The open hours of the library will be reduced 30 minutes a day, as an economy in the use of coal.

West

Jessie A. Budge, reference librarian, University of North Dakota, has resigned to become librarian of the Public library, Grand Forks, North Dakota.

Gertrude E. Kettle, Riverside, '17, was married on August 20, 1920, to Charles A. Cleary. Her new address is North Loup, Nebraska.

Ina F. Nelson, Riverside '20, recently in charge of the catalog room of the Riverside public library, began work in the Coburn library in the Colorado college, Colorado Springs, September 1.

S. Blanche Hedrick has been appointed director of the North Dakota public library commission. Miss Hedrick was formerly librarian of the College of agriculture, University of Missouri, and also assistant librarian of the University of North Dakota, 1913-1919.

Miss Susan G. Akers, Wisconsin, '13, has been elected cataloger of the University of North Dakota library.

Flora A. Hodge, for some time connected with the Public library of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, has been appointed reference librarian of the University of North Dakota, Grand Forks.

The annual report of the free library of Ogden, Utah, records the following: receipts, \$13,744, expenditures, \$13,943. The year is pronounced the most successful in the history of the library. Additions, 26,080, circulation for the year, 124,331v. A successful filing system for clippings and pamphlets was installed. Number of volumes on the shelves, 21,143; number of cards in force, 13,435.

The annual report of the Public library, Great Falls, Montana, made by Miss Louise M. Fernald, asks for an increased budget for the coming year to carry on the work already undertaken and to establish a branch library system. The circulation for the year was 148,844v., an increase of nearly 31,000v.; number of volumes on the shelves, 25,750; per cent of fiction, 62; cards in force, 10,741, one-third of the population of Great Falls.

Excellent results have been secured in the children's room, the circulation of which was nearly 66,000v., of which only 52 per cent was fiction. Collections of books were placed in the five schools, at a distance from the library. Weekly visits were made to these collections from the children's department. Praise is given the teachers for

Important New Books for Library and Home

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The book assembles material never brought together before within the compass of a single volume. It specifies in detail the exact part which men and women of New England stock had in founding and developing great commonwealths like Ohio, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, the Dakotas, Oregon, California and other Western and Far Western states. It sets forth the impact of New England upon the Near East, the Far East and the Hawaiian Islands. It describes the share New Englanders had in initiating and carrying forward far-reaching movements in education, reform, philanthropy and religion. The style is animated rather than technical and a series of original charts adds to the usefulness of the book. The early beginnings are graphically sketched, but quite as much emphasis is placed upon present evidences in customs, institutions and laws of the New England seed-sowing.

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The new volume is best interpreted by its chapter headings:

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An interpretation of the various scenes of the Pageant is given by two symbolic figures, Questioner and Interpreter. The First Episode is laid at the inn upon the old North Road. A prayer-meeting is broken up by the arrest of Brewster, and the Pilgrims resolve to leave Scrooby. The Second Episode shows the landing in America, and the first treaty with the Indians; the third, how the Pilgrims even in their darkest hour resolved to celebrate a Thanksgiving Day.

The crossing of the ocean and the hardships of the first winter are represented by folk dances: The Dance of the Elements, the Dance of the Stormy Sea, and the Dance of the Spectres of Famine, Cold and Pestilence.

The final tableau shows the Pilgrims of more recent days, immigrants from different nations, grouped around the Goddess of Liberty and the Spirit of Brotherhood. Paper, 75 cents.

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Publications

The Constitution and What It Means Today

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Giovanni della Robbia

By Allan Marquand (Vol. VIII of the Princeton Monographs in Art and Archaeology) \$8

Geneological and documentary material published for the first time, followed by a Catalogue Raisonné of the works of Giovanni and his atelier, and an Index and Bibliography.

Patent Law

By John Barker Waite \$5

Written primarily for the layman and describes what may be patented, how to secure the patent, and how to protect the monopoly.

Charlemagne (The Distracted Emperor)

Edited with notes and an introduction by Franck L. Schoell \$3

An anonymous Elizabethan drama credited to George Chapman, the famous contemporary and rival poet and playwright of Shakespeare. Published only once before in a volume now practically unobtainable.

Kentucky Superstitions

By D. L. and L. B. Thomas \$3

Superstitious beliefs are still widespread, and nowhere more persistent than in Kentucky. This collection puts most of them permanently on record.

Modern Constitutional Development in China

By Harold M. Vinacke \$2

The whole political situation in China has changed within the past twenty years. This volume traces these changes, tells how they came about, and what their effect has been.

Princeton University Press
Princeton, N. J.

their coöperation in sending lists of material wanted before the class wished to use it. The entering classes in the high school were given courses in instruction on the use of the library in 22 lessons, in groups of 30 pupils.

Pacific Coast

Edith Newcomet, Simmons '14, has been made reference librarian of the Fresno County library, at Fresno, California.

Hilda M. Lancefield, B. L. S., N. Y. S. '16, became librarian of the Washington high school of Portland, Oregon, September 1.

Pearl Kohler, Riverside, '16, is now librarian of the Beaumont district library, Calif., succeeding E. Browning Stafford, resigned.

Grace I. Dick, N. Y. S. '17, resigned as assistant in the Tulare County free library, Visalia, Cal., to become cataloger at Mills college, Cal.

Edith F. Vermeule, Pratt, of the staff of the Rosenberg library, Galveston, has accepted the librarianship of the Yesler branch library, Seattle.

Margaret Hatch has resigned as librarian of Sutter County library, Yuba City, Cal., to become librarian for the Standard Oil Co., of San Francisco.

Florence Behr, N. Y. P. L. '16-18, formerly an assistant in the Girls' High-school library, Brooklyn, is now librarian of the High-school, San Diego, Cal.

Mildred C. Coleman, for several years on the staff of the Cleveland public library, has been appointed an assistant in the Branch headquarters, Public library, Seattle.

Edith M. Church, Riverside, '17, has resigned from her position as librarian of the Glendale high school, and is now assistant in the Kern County free library at Hanford, Calif.

Jessie E. Bishop has resigned from the Public library, Seattle, to become head of the circulation department at State college library, Pullman, Wash.

Edith Hile, who has spent the past year in the New York public library, has been appointed librarian of the Queen Anne branch library, Seattle.

Alice M. Paddock, N. Y. S. '06-'07, has resigned as librarian of the Public library of Jamestown, N. D., to take charge of one of the branches of the Library association, Portland, Ore.

Lilla B. Dailey, Riverside, '15, recently returned from her work in Washington, takes Mrs Abbott's place as librarian of the Citrus experiment station at Riverside.

Dorothy Hayes, University of Washington library school, who has just completed a year at the Carnegie library school, has returned to Seattle as a branch children's librarian.

Hazel H. King, Carnegie library school for children's librarians, and for the past few months on the New York public library staff, has been appointed assistant in the central children's room, Seattle.

Helen Mason, Riverside, '18, formerly librarian of the Medical school of the University of Southern California, is now employed at the San Luis Obispo County free library.

Miss Mary Lytle has become librarian of the Stadium high school of Tacoma, resigning from the Public library. Jacqueline Hoel succeeds to the head of the reference department of the Public library.

Miss Helen Coffin, formerly of Illinois, but for some years active in California library work, has been appointed hostess and librarian at March Field, the United States aviation school at Riverside, Cal.

Miss Helen McRaith, for a number of years librarian of the Public library, Iowa City, Iowa, resigned during the summer to become librarian of one of the branches of the Portland library association.

A special departmental library relating to Latin American history has been collected during the summer

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months at Occidental college, Los Angeles. The collection will be a memorial to the Reverend Robert W. Cleland, D.D.

Mrs M. Jessamine Abbott, Riverside, '17, has been granted a leave of absence as librarian of the Citrus experiment station of the University of California located at Riverside, and is now employed at the Oregon Agricultural college library at Corvallis.

The increases in the salary schedule of the Tacoma public library, effective July 1, 1920, were as follows:

Heads of departments, \$115 to \$160.
Heads of divisions, first assistants and branch librarians, \$100 to \$110.
Senior assistants, \$87.50 to \$100.
Junior assistants, \$70 to \$90.

Miss Edith Pancoast, head of the circulation department of the Public library, Tacoma, has resigned and will take up library work in New England. Mary A. Batterson, Ill. '08, formerly connected with the Seattle public library, succeeds Miss Pancoast.

The following six members of this year's graduating class of the University of Washington library school, have been appointed to permanent positions in the Seattle public library: Lee Hall, Elma Hawkins, Doris Hopkins, Weyana Lopp, Helen Remsberg and Consuelo Welty.

The Yolo county library at Woodland, Cal., has installed messenger service through a corps of school boys and girls who for specified periods will take orders for and deliver the books called for by phone or letter to users of the library and return them on call in the same day.

Drusilla D. Rutherford, who has just completed the one-year course in library science, Simmons college, has come to Seattle as assistant in the children's room and teachers' room at the central library. Miss Rutherford was on the staff of the Denver public library for six years.

Sadie Lindsey, for 12 years head of the documents division of the Tacoma

public library, was married to Leonard Harader, June 12.

At the September meeting, the trustees of the Public library, Pomona, Cal., voted salary increases as follows:

The maximum was raised from \$86 to \$95, the minimum from \$50 to \$75. A blanket increase of \$10 was given, and in addition other increases for special ability or training, so that the amount received by each is bettered from \$10 to \$25 a month.

Miss Alice A. Blanchard, Pittsburg '06, has accepted the position of supervisor of children's work in the Los Angeles public library. Miss Blanchard has had extensive experience in children's and school departments in the Seattle and Newark public libraries. She was also formerly first assistant in the children's department and in the library school at Pittsburg. She entered upon her new duties August 1.

Mrs Gladys Case, Pittsburg '11, has been appointed principal of the children's room, Central library, Los Angeles.

Foreign

Word has come from Brussels that fairly satisfactory progress is being made in the restitution of books to the library of the Louvain university, in accordance with the provisions of the Treaty of Versailles.

A carload of books was returned to Louvain on July 19 by the Germans and every reason points to a similar consignment for several months. The problem of constructing a new library building confronts the university and the solution of it is not easily discernible.

Miss Mirpah Gilbert, librarian of the Lyceum of Liverpool, has been appointed librarian of Chiswick at a commencing salary of 300 pounds a year.

L. Stanley Jast, formerly librarian of Croydon, England, and for some time deputy chief librarian of Manchester, has been appointed chief librarian to succeed the late Mr C. W. Sutton, at a salary of 750 pounds a year.